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THROUGH

Dept. of State.

Dec. 7, 1900.

A CATALOGUE

OF

Westminster Records

DEPOSITED AT THE

TOWN HALL, CAXTON STREET,

IN THE CUSTODY OF

THE VESTRY OF ST. MARGARET & ST. JOHN,

WITH

Introductory Essay,

Illustrations and Extracts,

BY

JOHN EDWARD SMITH, F.S.A., VESTRY CLERK,

Author of "The Westminster Tobacco Box" (1887); *"Local Government in Westminster"* (1889); *"The Parochial Charities of Westminster"* (1890); *"Parochial Memorials of St. John the Evangelist, Westminster"* (1892); *"Bygone Briefs"* (1896); *&c., &c.*

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FRONTISPIECE (COLOURED) OF THE OVERSEERS' ACCOUNTS, 1616.

INTRODUCTION.

"'Tis greatly wise to talk with our past hours,
And ask them what report they bore to heaven;
And how they might have borne more welcome news.
Their answers form what men experience call;
If wisdom's friend, her best; if not, worst foe."—YOUNG.

ALLOWING for the intervening lapse of time, the pages of the poets, the historians and the scholiasts of the Greek and Roman periods afford us a singularly instructive insight into the ways and usages of contemporary social life; so much so, in fact, that though the assertion may appear paradoxical, many educated people possess a far better acquaintance with life and manners in Greece and Italy two thousand years ago than with the habits and usages of their forefathers, only removed from them by the comparatively short period that has elapsed since the press was set up in England. The explanation is probably to be found in the fact that the middle ages, so far as this country is concerned, have no literature to call their own at all resembling that of the ancients, and as to the writings which we must be content to accept as a substitute for it, as giving us an insight into the contemporary features of social life, the items of which those writings are composed are lamentably deficient. The chroniclers of those ages are mostly too intent upon the deeds or aspirations of the great or the ambitious to bestow a passing notice upon the multitude from whom their individuals are selected; and the legendist, the romancer, and the poet are too busily engaged with the doings and sayings of their saints and their heroes to descend from their elevation to any less holy, less stirring, or less captivating details.

One result of this is that we must either rest contented with the few and transient glimpses of light fitfully thrown upon this interesting subject by the early glossarists—with what we may glean

incidentally from the chroniclers—or we must look, of necessity, to other and far different sources for the materials of our social history —to documents, in fact, which the compilers little dreamt would be turned to such an account, but which atone by their truthfulness and authenticity for their meagreness of diction and their want of embellishment. These documents, fortunately for those who would deplore our social history being swept into oblivion, still lie scattered, in comparatively great abundance, over the length and breadth of the land. It is to our early laws, statutes and enactments, to registers, rentals, rolls, orders and accounts, under their legion of technical appellations, that we must have recourse if we would gain the moderate credit of knowing at least as much about our forefathers as about the populaces that thronged the streets of ancient Athens or Rome. From records such as these we may become intimately acquainted with the early form and subsequent development of our civil and municipal institutions, for there was hardly a dealing or a difference between man and man, however trivial, that was not provided for or regulated by sumptuary laws or by-laws, many of them now regarded as absurd and grotesque: hardly a transaction or existing relation in private life that was not the subject of legal enactment and parochial surveillance. From the recorded proceedings under such laws as these may be seen the growth of taxation upon varying principles and under multiform conditions, the relations of prices and labour, the progress of arts, manufactures and commerce, the gradual expanse of our national wealth or defence, and the manners, usages and habits of our forefathers. A very considerable amount of biographical and genealogical information may also be gathered from such sources, and indications may be derived from them on the various developments of religious opinion and belief, while the philologist, the topographer, and the student of church or parish folk-lore find ample scope for their research.

If the indulgent reader entertain a doubt that such value attaches to the records of a single parish in the great metropolis, he is invited to reserve his judgment until he shall have thoughtfully perused the following pages. That there may be such doubts is not remarkable, for outside the comparatively small circle of those engaged in Local

Government* there are few who concern themselves with either the nature or the value of parochial records, or regard the preservation of them as of any importance. This appears to have been so ever since the laity gradually obtained a restoration of their independence in things civil at the Reformation. It is not the object of the present essay, however, to investigate the causes, nor to illustrate the consequences of this indifference; much less is it proposed to enter upon an academical disquisition upon "records," and upon the particular classes of books, documents, or instruments which, in the strict sense of the word, come within that category. The existence of the indifference warrants the attempt, however feeble and imperfect, to contribute to the removal of it. The object in view, therefore, in the compilation and issue of the catalogue in the present form, is to kindle such an interest in the subject as will dispel the mists of apathy with which it has all too long been enveloped and, perchance, to afford a passing glimpse at the origin of some of the departments of Local Government and Poor Law Administration which present day "reformers," forgetful of the unobtrusive labours of their predecessors claim to have introduced:—

> "All the inventions that the world contains,
> Were not by reason first found out, nor brains;
> But pass for theirs who had the luck to light
> Upon them by mistake or oversight."—BUTLER.

Obviously something more than a mere bald, dry-as-dust list of titles, numbers, and dates, however carefully classified, is necessary to stimulate the interest and to reach the end in view The reference to the lack of interest in the conservation of parochial records is by no means intended as a reflection upon those to whose keeping they have been entrusted. The State itself was so careless in relation to its own records that it would have been surprising to find the local powers

* The population of the united parish is, in round figures, 53,000, the number of Vestrymen, 100, or ·19 of the whole; the population of "Greater Westminster"—the new Borough to be formed by the amalgamation of the eleven smaller areas—is 192,072, the number of Vestrymen and District Board Members, 469, or ·24 of the whole; the population of London is 4,230,266, and the number of Vestrymen and District Board Members, 2,956, or ·06 of the whole.

otherwise. At the restoration of Charles II. documents which we now prize as the very cream and flower of our Constitutional records were in a condition which, in the course of a few years, would have satisfied the most ardent wishes the notorious Hugh Peters could have cherished for their destruction. Prynne's account of the state in which they were then found must be perused in the untranslateable language of his "epistle dedicatory" to Charles II.:—*

"No sooner received I your royal patent (passed without fees) for the custody of your ancient records in your Tower of London, even in the middest of my parliamentary and disbanding services then monopolising all my time, but I designed and endeavoured the rescue of the greatest part of them from that desolation, corruption and confusion in which (through the negligence, nescience, or sloathfulness of their former keepers) they had for many years bypast layen buried together in one confused chaos, under corroding, putrifying cobwebs, dust and filth, in the darkest corner of Cæsar's Chappel in the White Tower, as mere useless reliques, not worthy to be calendarised or brought down thence into the office amongst other records of use. In order thereunto, I imployed some souldiers and women to remove and cleanse them from their filthynesse, who, soon growing weary of this noysome work, left them almost as foul, dusty and nasty as they found them. Whereupon, immediately after the Parliament's adjournment, I and my clerk, in August and September last, spent many whole dayes and sorting them into distinct confused heaps, in order to their future reducement into method; the old clerks of the office being unwilling to touch them for fear of fouling their fingers, spoyling their cloathes, endangering their eyesight and healths by their cankerous dust and evil scent. In raking up this dungheap (according to my expectation) I found many rare ancient precious pearls and golden records relating to the High Court of Parliament . . . . , all which will require Briareus his hundred hands, Argus his hundred eyes, and Nestor's centuries of years to marshall them into distinct files, and make exact tables of the several things, names and places comprised in them—wherein most Treasuries of Records are very defective, which oft causeth your subjects to make long

* *Quarterly Review*, vol. 39, p. 65.

fruitless searches and to depart with a *non est inventus* of what they sought for."

Prynne's unvarnished description may be applied with equal force to parochial records, as will hereafter be seen. From the time of Edward VI., when the first compulsory assessment for the relief of the poor was made, and when overseers, under the title of "collectours" were first called into existence, down to the seventeenth year of George IV., there was neither Order in Council nor Statute to regulate the custody and preservation of such records, except as to parish registers, to which a passing reference is made at page 15. In 1744, the churchwardens and overseers, as the principal secular office-bearers of the parish, were placed under penal obligations to deliver to their successors "a just, true and perfect account in writing, fairly entered in a book or books to be kept for that purpose" of all moneys received and paid "and of all other things concerning their said office" of overseer. The accounts so transferred were to be carefully preserved by the incoming officers, and were to be open to inspection upon certain conditions. The enactment was limited in its application to the books and accounts relating to the moneys compulsorily levied for the maintenance of the poor and purposes incidental thereto. It was not until 1818 that Parliament extended its care to the custody of parish books and documents in general. A comprehensive provision was then inserted in the Act 58 George III., cap. 69, whereby every conceivable description of book or paper in the nature of a record—registers being especially excepted—was placed under the protection of the inhabitants in vestry assembled, heavy penalties being at the same time prescribed in case of wilful damage, obliteration, or unlawful detention. But this was far from sufficient. The zealous discharge of their responsibilities by the inhabitants soon brought the legislative oversight into prominence. The fact had been forgotten that many of the parishes possessed no room or other place for the deposit and safe keeping of the records, and that the inhabitants, acting by the vestry, were powerless to provide such a depository at the expense of the rates; and the defect was not remedied for upwards of forty years. An Act was passed in 1861 (24 and 25 Vict., cap. 125) enabling the overseers to obtain the

accommodation; but irreparable losses had by that time occurred through the temporary lodging of the books, or at least those in actual use, at the private houses or business premises of the office bearers. There can be no doubt that the lamentably imperfect sets of parochial records in many places are due to this cause.

It is probably the experience of all who have sought a reference to parochial records, other than those in current use, that the nominal custodians are both uninformed and unconcerned as to their value and importance. In more than one London parish the muniments prior to 1855, when the administrative Vestry system was introduced, are still obscured by a century's dust in the tower of the parish church. No one knows what they consist of; there is nothing in the shape of a catalogue; and there is no muniment room at the newly erected "town-hall." These are but typical cases. Elsewhere, in an extra-metropolitan parish, the enquirer for the parish records was referred to the rectory. There the books were found on open shelves in the children's play-room, among toy books and waste newspapers. In another country parish, when a request was made for access to the books, the applicants, who were complete strangers in the locality, were directed to a labourer's cottage. There they were handed the keys of the church and told that the books would be found in a chest in the vestry. The door from the church to the vestry was found open, the lock of the chest worn out, and the lid, broken in two pieces, detached from the hinges. The contents of the chest, all more or less mutilated and damaged from rough usage, were left within reach of the ignorant and the mischievous. The numerous instances given by Mr. Thiselton Dyer, Mr. Bigland, Francis Sadler, Burn, and other writers on the same subject, show that this experience was not uncommon.

But quite apart from the carelessness, such cases are interesting as showing the survival to the present day of a custom which was general in the far away past—that of depositing the public records in or in connection with the temple. The earliest of such repositories noticed in history is the house of the rolls or books,* where the treasures were laid up in Babylon B.C. 530. Here the decrees of the Persian kings

* Ezra, ch. V., v. 17, and ch. VI., v. 1-2.

were deposited, and, as may be inferred from the writ of Darius, all instruments relating to the domains and revenues of the sovereign. Hardy, in his *Description of the Close Rolls*, states that as far back as can be traced "the public records were preserved in churches and other religious places. The Greeks paid particular attention to the conservation of their records. The temple of Delos was, according to Pausanias, the general repository of records; and parts of the Areopagus and the Temple of Minerva were devoted by the Athenians to the custody of the public instruments. The Romans were not less zealous in this respect than the Greeks, and their most precious archives were deposited in their temples. This custom of preserving records in sacred places was followed in the middle ages, and it is not improbable that in England the 'King's Chapel' was used for that purpose. Hence it was that the Chancellor, as presiding over the Royal Chapel, came to be so much connected with royal diplomas and archives." This same custom prevails generally throughout England to the present day, except in those rare instances in which special provision has been made, as in the case of this parish. Here, until recently, the ancient practice was observed with a care that did credit to the successive custodians during more than four centuries. Perhaps the most zealous of the long line were the churchwardens of 1730 (John Atkinson and John Williams) and 1733 (Thomas Noel and John Lock),—

> "Men so noble,
> However faulty, yet should find respect
> For what they have been."
>
> *Hen. VIII., Act V., Sc.* 2.

The former, fourteen years before there was any obligation at law upon the subject, collected the whole of the churchwardens' accounts, from 1460 to 1610, and had the annual and biennial numbers bound together in convenient volumes in calf which is still in good condition. The accounts for 1730 contain the following entry relating to it:—

> To Mr. Charles King, for binding up in rough Calves Leather the Churchwardens' Accounts from the year 1460 to the year 1610, both inclusive, in six volumes, and also the Accounts of the Brotherhood of St. Mary, Rouncival,* &c. ... ... £10 4*s.* 0*d.*

* These are preserved in the Vestry room of St. Margaret's.

The latter rendered a similar service with reference to the overseers' accounts, as is shown by the tablets upon the covers, and by the following entry in the accounts for 1733:—

To the Execux. of Mr. Charles King, Bookseller, for binding the old parish accounts together collected into volumes ... ...£11 13*s.* 0*d.*

The good example so set was followed, though with less uniformity, by their successors; and the missing numbers, as will be seen by the catalogue, are far less since that time than formerly.

As the accretions of many years made demands for more space, the records gradually became distributed in half a dozen different places for storage, eleven large cases having been discovered, by accident, so recently as in 1885, in the tower of the Church, where they had lain "time out of mind," for no one could be found who had any knowledge of the time or circumstances in which they were placed there. The other sections remained so scattered until 1883, when the muniment room in the newly erected municipal building was pronounced fit for use. But alas! the intended means of preservation brought about a state of things resembling that described by Prynne (see p. 6) and hastened the destruction of a large quantity. Into an unlighted, unventilated chamber, the walls and floor and ceiling of which were reeking with moisture from the new work, and without a table, or press, or shelf, some nine or ten tons weight of valuable records, many of them unique, and all incapable of being replaced, were cast in huge heaps. There they were allowed to remain until the following year, when the mischief was discovered and, as far as possible, repaired. A large quantity, however, unprotected by boards or covers, resolved itself into its original pulp, and had to be sent to the mills. But notwithstanding this misfortune the contents of the muniment room are claimed to be more complete than in any other parish in London.

No less than 3,400 volumes or bundles of books and papers, all carefully numbered, classified and arranged, are here to be found in as good order* as are the contents of a public library, the whole capable of furnishing materials for a local history of rare completeness, affording an insight into the conditions under which our forefathers

* Some few have lost title-pages and are otherwise mutilated.

performed their part in their day and generation, and reminding us that "England owes more to the grey-goose quill than to the spear; more to the sheepskin than to the banner." Four of the principal divisions are the churchwardens' accounts, the overseers' accounts, the rate books, and the minutes of the Vestry. The first named, which commence with the year 1460, are inscribed for many years on vellum. They contain particulars of the receipts from pew rents and burials in such detail as, in many cases, to enable the pew occupied by a parishioner or the place of interment to be exactly located, and are particularly interesting, in many cases, as giving the jewels, ornaments and property belonging to the church. The second class relates principally to the relief of the poor, showing on the one side the receipts from the rates and episcopally-persuaded "benevolences," and on the other the payments by way of relief, or "boarding out," or education, or nursing. These are at once instructive and interesting, as enabling us to trace the origin, the decadence and the reform of the present poor-law system, and to follow it in its development through inhumanities which cause us to shudder, through acts of indiscrimination which excite surprise, and through abuses which we should deem intolerable. The overseers' accounts, which abound in interest during the sixteenth and two following centuries, gradually transformed themselves into the modern rate-book, which cannot make any pretensions to rival its predecessors in any other respect than bulk and amounts. In the latter respect it is curious to note that the first poor rate—that for 1561-62—produced £21 14s. 7d., whereas the last—that for 1899-1900—amounted to £145,546 3s. 4d.* The next important series is that of the Vestry minutes, or "orders" as they were sometimes called, consisting of some hundreds of volumes, and extending from 1585, with very few interruptions, to the present day. In these may be seen a lingering, for more than two hundred years, of the close association of the church with the administration of secular or temporal affairs. The officiating minister for the time being was always the chairman; the meetings were held in the room adjoining the church;

* It is now, though called "Poor Rate," an 'omnibus' rate, and includes moneys required for County Council, Police, Asylums Board, Registration, Equalisation, and other purposes in no way connected with the relief of the poor.

the letting of the pews, the administration of the charities, the hours of the services, the charges for interments, the engagement and control of the servants, the collection and disbursement of the offertories, even the refreshment of occasional preachers were all, at times, regulated by the Vestry. And it may be said that the germ of every institution, service and system that to-day makes for the comfort and security of the citizen—road making, water supply, fire protection, drainage, public lighting, police, sanitary measures—is to be found in these comprehensive records.

Besides these four principal classes are upwards of 2,000 miscellaneous volumes abounding in information of extensive, varied, and unrivalled interest. Only an imperfect idea of the range over which they extend can be gathered from a perusal of the catalogue. No useful purpose would therefore be served by particularising any of them here; but viewed as a whole, it may be doubted whether any other parish in the kingdom can lay claim to the possession of so valuable and polygenous a collection. And it would be unworthy of the traditions of the ancient City of Westminster if indifference for the safe custody and due classification of the muniments of the mother parish were allowed to continue. Westminster may, indeed, be justly regarded as the great centre of Record Depositories—the Chapter House, the Chapel of the Pyx, the Jewel House, the "Tally Court" in the Old Palace, the Muniment Room of the venerable Abbey, still only partially calendared, and the repositories but recently removed to the Law Courts and the Record Office all justify the claim.

The original Charter of Offa, King of Mercia, setting out "the rural manor" of Westminster, in 785, lies at the British Museum with the confirming document of Edgar in 985; and the Domesday Book (1086), in which Westminster ranks as a "village," was preserved for many years at the Chapter House. The oldest document at the Town Hall is the Patent under the Great Seal of Henry III., granting to the inhabitants of Westminster, in 1256, the right to hold a weekly market on Mondays and an annual fair at "Touthull" on the eve, day, and day following St. Mary Magdalene (July 21, 22 and 23). The next in point of age is a Charter of Edward I. (1298), also bearing the Great Seal, confirming and extending the last named. Then

follow the Letters Patent of Henry VI., with the Great Seal attached, dated 3rd February, 1446-7, granting to the commonalty of Westminster the surplus water flowing from the King's conduit. The importance of this grant may be gathered from the fact that the churchwardens of 1524 make a note at the end of their accounts that "the King's Charter for the Condett at Pales gate remayneth in the custody of the Churchwardens." After being lost to sight for many years, this, with the two last named instruments, was rescued from obscurity upon the removal of the parochial records to the new municipal buildings in 1883-4, having fortunately escaped the injury to which reference has already been made. Then, in 1460, commence the long series of Churchwardens' Accounts, so that the period covered by the records enumerated in the following catalogue may be said to extend over six hundred and forty-four years. Those relating to the last four centuries will be found, as nearly as possible, in consecutive order, the breaks being indicated by the word "missing." Completeness in the Catalogue itself is not claimed, nor is any pretension made to elaborate classification or sub-division; the design has gone but little further than the compilation of a schedule sufficiently useful for ordinary practical purposes. An index has been added to facilitate reference and, with a view to call into action and to sustain the cursory interest in these parochial antecedents, extracts and annotations have been introduced here and there in passing. From these the man of leisure inclined in that direction by his taste and talents—"whose gifted eye which grace still touched as if with second nature"—may form an estimate of the abundance and variety of material within his reach for the production of a retrospect of parochial life, character and customs. From such ample resources he may be able to re-erect, so to speak, streets and places long since lost to view, and to re-people them with those who trod the ill-kept highways. Or he may turn aside to glance at the great, the noble and the good, whose imperishable work in their day and generation is their monument, before which we pause with a feeling of respect,—

"Nor deem the irrecoverable past
As wholly wasted, wholly vain,
If, rising on its wrecks at last,
To something nobler we attain."

Such a cicerone might invite us to accompany him to the forgotten homes of the poets—of Skelton,* of Spencer, of "Rare Ben Jonson," of Milton, of Dryden, of Prior, of the satirist Churchill, not to mention others; he might point out to us, on his way, the residences of the soldier, the scientist, the statesman, the musician, the philosopher and the philanthropist, all too numerous to be named here; he might portray to us, if only in silhouette, our forefathers actively zealous for the public weal, or illustrate from these same sources of information the manners and customs of the people during the thirty different reigns through which his research would take him; he might adduce multifarious evidence of the excesses to which men's feelings carried them during the Commonwealth; he might bring out the armour and defensive weapons from the "dark vestry," or take us to the Artillery Ground, or direct us to the battery newly erected in "Tuttle-feilds," or exhibit the subscription list for the "maimed souldiers," or produce the long roll of the "Armed Association" (as the Westminster volunteers of 1798 were first called, in testimony of the parochial patriotism), and in divers other ways show us, as if in a kaleidoscope, whence we came, if he shrank from indicating whither we are trending. He might, in short, demonstrate with Carlyle, that "in books lies the soul of the whole past time, the articulate audible voice of the past, when the body and material substance of it has altogether vanished like a dream." These represent but a tithe of the topics which would suggest themselves to one whose inclinations and opportunities might enable him to present in a readable form the memorials of Westminster in a manner worthy of the place.

And all this could be accomplished without reference to the parish registers, which, with the accounts of the Hospital or Brotherhood of St. Mary, Rouncevall, are preserved at the Vestry Room of St. Margaret's Church.† For this reason they are not mentioned in the catalogue. It may be permissible to state, however, that they com-

* Chaucer died at his house in the Palace Yard, near the east end of St. Margaret's Church, in 1400, sixty years before the date of the earliest book in the collection.

† The Marriage Registers of St. Margaret's from 1538 to 1837 have been copied, and are being published, by Mr. Henry Farrar, of No. 9, Agar-street, W.C.

mence with the year 1538, when the first Orders were issued by the Vicar-General, Thomas Cromwell, in the thirtieth year of Henry VIII., relating to the provision and preservation of such registers. This Order was continued by fresh injunctions in the succeeding reigns of Edward VI, Elizabeth and James I. That of 1547 placed the responsibility for the custody of the registers upon the parson, vicar or curate, *and the parishioners*—presumably the parishioners in Vestry assembled, for the minutes of that body testify to their zeal in the discharge of the trust. In 1555 Cardinal Pole required the names of Godparents to be entered in connection with the baptisms. In 1597 Convocation directed that copies be sent to the Diocesan Registry within one month of Easter each year; and in 1603 the entries were to be transcribed into a parchment book. They first came under the regulation of Parliament in 1644-5, when the duty of keeping "a fair register book of velim" was imposed upon the minister. During the Commonwealth the system of registration by the clergy became so irregular, that Parliament insisted upon the appointment of Registrars; but at the Restoration the duty again devolved upon the clergy, with whom, so far as it relates to baptisms, marriages solemnised in the church, and burials, it has remained ever since. In 1694, a very long Act (6 and 7 William III., cap. 6) was passed "for granting to his Majesty certain rates and duties upon marriages, births and burials, and upon bachelors and widowers, for the term of five years, for carrying on the war against France with vigour." Partly owing to the objectionable nature of the tax upon bachelors and widowers, and partly owing to an excusable unwillingness on the part of many of the clergy to act as collectors of an exaction which gave rise to many complaints, particularly among their poorer parishioners, the operation of the Act soon became extremely unpopular, so that, notwithstanding the placing of the "common informer" *in terrorem* and the passing of a supplementary Act two years later (9 William III., cap. 32) to prevent evasions of the principal Act, the improvement was only partial, and Parliament again interfered in the fourth year of Queen Anne. In 1753 Lord Hardwicke's Marriage Act was passed, which imposed stringent punishments in case of negligence or wilful tampering with the entries in registers; and in 1783 a tax was again

levied upon every entry in the parish register, but the unpopularity of it was so great that it was repealed in 1794. From that time until 1812 no important amendment of the law was made. In that year an Act was passed "for the better regulating and preserving parish and other registers"; but the great reform was not effected until 1836 when a uniform scheme was prescribed, and stringent rules were laid down for keeping the registers in strict accordance with forms set out in schedules to the Act. From that time the value of the parish register as a record of passing events has greatly diminished. The register of births and deaths superseded, so far as legal purposes are concerned, the records of baptisms and burials, and the miscellaneous entries, frequently quaint and curious—sometimes grotesque and ludicrous—became practically prohibited. Notwithstanding the value of these registers, those dating prior to 1836 have enjoyed no greater immunity from carelessness and injury than the other parochial records which are classified in the following catalogue. All that has been said of the latter may be applied to the former; but as an enlargement thereon would be foreign to the purpose of this essay, the reader is referred to Burn's *History of Parish Registers*, to the Journal of the British Archæological Association for 1896,* to the entertaining pages of Mr. Thiselton Dyer's *Old English Social Life, as told by the Parish Register*, 1898, and to the many other writers on the subject. The temptation to linger here on so fascinating a subject must be reluctantly resisted, and these records, on whose pages are exhibited the extremes of riches and poverty, of beauty and deformity, of affection and hatred, of peace and war, must be left untouched,—

> "No flattering there, where to be born and die
> Of rich and poor is all the history.
> Enough if virtue filled the space between
> Proved by the ends of being to have been?"

The reader is now invited to make a perusal of the catalogue. If he care to do so he may find his attention engaged by the reproduction, necessarily reduced in size, of some of the ornamental title pages, on which the scrivener of the day, evidently not a stranger to leisure, applied his skill. He may also find some of the extracts, given merely

* Notes on the Parish Registers of Newbury, by Walter Money, F.S.A.

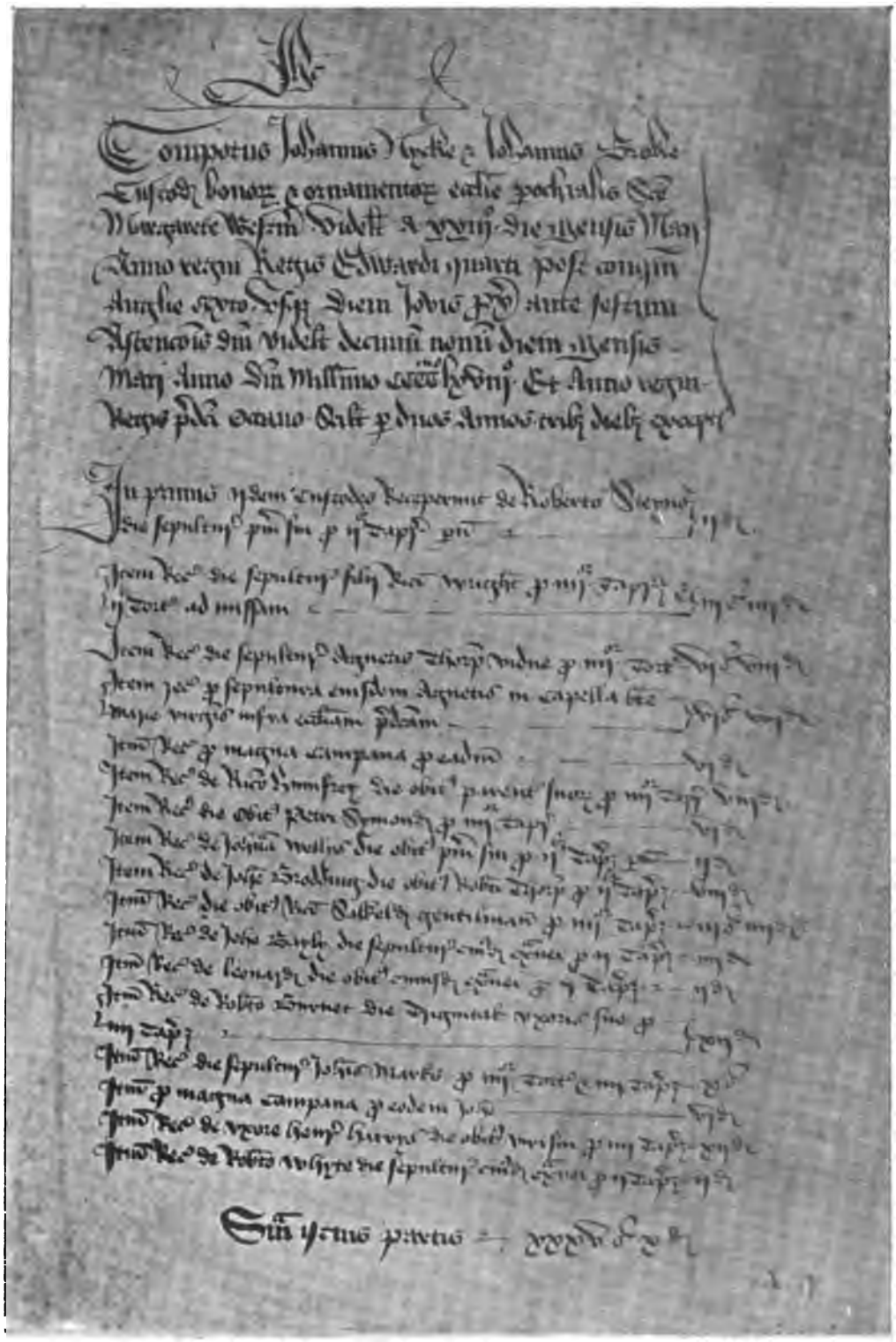
by way of specimen, worthy of a passing thought; and it is hoped that the occasional annotations may assist in the elucidation of some of the questions which will probably suggest themselves. If he care to occupy himself in a comparison of the church ornaments and vestments before and after the Reformation, the Appendix may not be considered devoid of interest.

The compilation has been made at a season of exceptional pressure, and is offered with a full sense of its imperfections. Owing to the absence of an index from the majority of the records examined, to the difficulty of deciphering the various handwritings in the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries, and to the conditions under which the work has been performed, it will probably be found that errors have escaped detection. For all such, as for its unavoidable shortcomings, the considerate forbearance of the reader is asked, for, as Howard has it:—

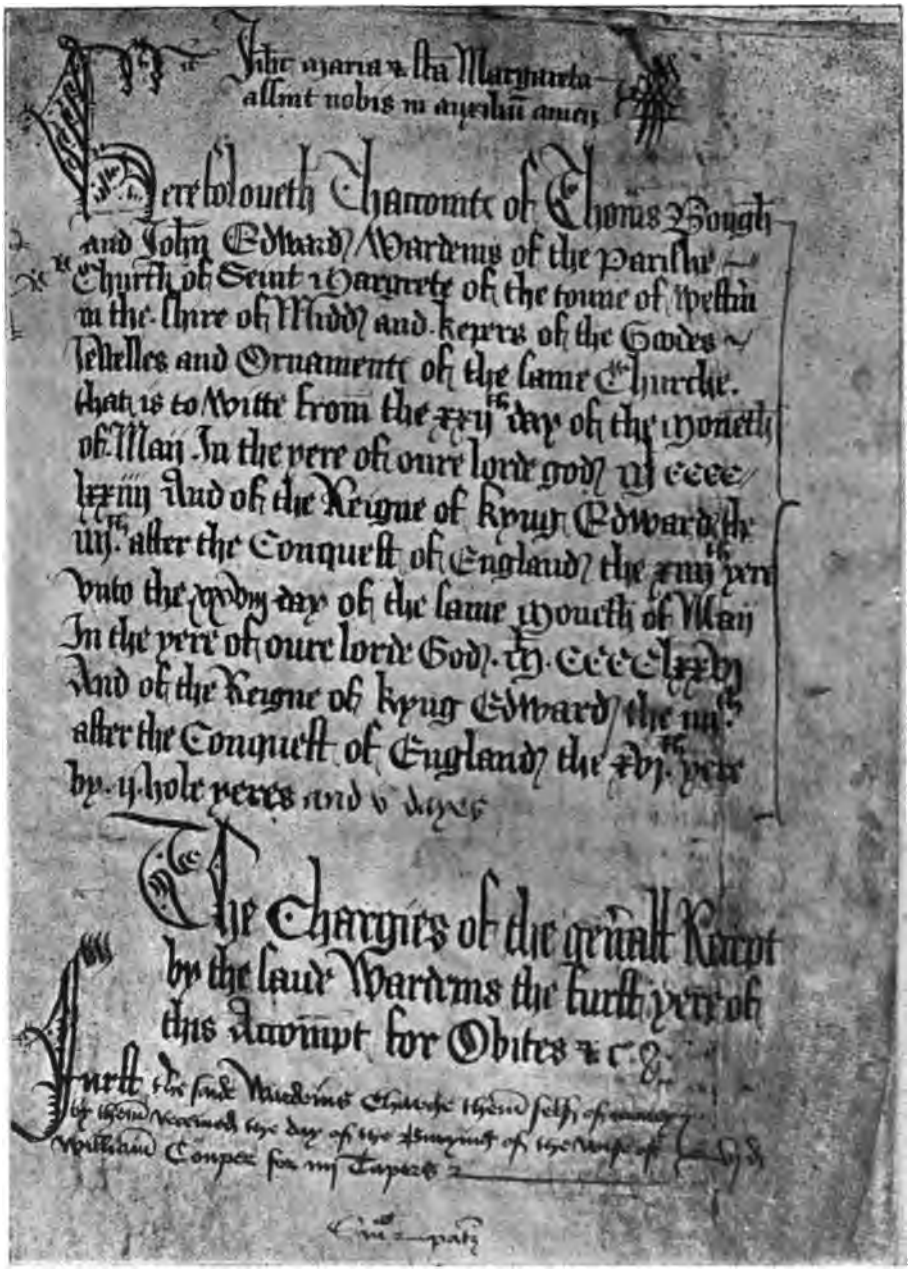
> "He that writes,
> Or makes a feast, more certainly invites
> His judges than his friends; there's not a guest
> But will find something wanting or ill-drest."

Taken as a whole, it is hoped that the Catalogue, with its interspersions, will be of some public service pending the issue of a better. The reader who may, by its aid, transport himself to the local atmosphere of three or four centuries ago will probably find himself in sympathy with Professor Jebb's opinion that "Humanity cannot afford to leave out of its inheritance any part of the good the past has bequeathed to it."

THE TOWN HALL,
WESTMINSTER,
June, 1900.



FIRST PAGE OF CHURCHWARDENS' ACCOUNTS, 1468



Jhc maria & sta Margareta
assint nobis in auxilium amen

Here foloueth Chaconnte of Thomas Bough
and John Edward Wardens of the Parishe
Church of Seint Margrete of the toune of Westm
in the shire of Midd and keyers of the Goodes
Jewelles and Ornaments of the same Churche.
that is to witte from the xxij^th day of the moneth
of Maij In the yere of oure lorde god M cccc
lxxiiij And of the Reigne of kyng Edward the
iiij^th after the Conquest of England the xiiij^th yere
vnto the xxviij day of the same moneth of Maij
In the yere of oure lorde God M cccclxxvj
And of the Reigne of kyng Edward the iiij^th
after the Conquest of England the xvj^th yere
by ij hole yeres and v dayes

The Chargies of the generalt Receipt
by the saide Wardens the furst yere of
this Accompt for Obites &c.

Furst the saide Wardens Churche themselfe of money
by them received the day of the burying of the wife of
William Couper for iiij Tapers

Cum pati

TITLE PAGE OF CHURCHWARDENS' ACCOUNTS, 1474-6.

A CATALOGUE OF Westminster Records.

No.	Title or Nature of Record.	Year.	Shelf.
(Unnumbered)	Letters Patent of Henry III., granting the inhabitants of Westminster a weekly market on Mondays in Tothill, and an annual fair for three days, to be held on the vigil, day, and morrow of St. Mary Magdalene. Impression of Great Seal in green wax, somewhat damaged, attached by silk cord.	1256	Hung in Room No. 13
(Unnumbered)	Letters Patent of Edward I., granting to the inhabitants of Westminster an annual fair of thirty-two days, beginning on the Feast of the Translation of St. Edward, King and Confessor, in lieu of two fairs, each of sixteen days, granted by Henry III. Impression of Great Seal, in white or yellow wax, nearly perfect, attached with silk cord.	1298	Hung in Room No. 13
(Unnumbered)	Charter of Henry IV., granting to the Commonalty of Westminster the waste water from the Conduit in the King's Palace at Westminster, with permission to carry it in pipes to a convenient place. Impression of Great Seal in wax attached.	1446-7	Hung in Room No. 13
(Unnumbered)	Indenture, Abbot of Westminster to Robert Yonge, butcher, to farm a tenement in Little Sanctuary for thirty years, at 10s. per annum. Seal of the Abbot attached with parchment; margin destroyed, but perfect impression of remainder.	1535	Hung in Room No. 13

No.	Title or Nature of Record.	Year.	Shelf
(Unnumbered)	Charter of George II. granting leave to hold a hay and straw market in "Chappell Street" on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, the tolls to be applied to the benefit of the poor. Great Seal in yellow wax, attached with plaited silk cord; perfect, and good impression.	1727	Hung in Room No. 13
(Unnumbered)	Warrant of the Trustees incorporated to encourage the development of the Colony of Georgia, America, appointing the Minister, Churchwardens and Gentlemen of the Parish of St. Margaret to gather money for the said purpose. On paper, mounted on crimson silk, with the seal of the Trustees in clay, repaired, showing a group of figures on the obverse, and a silkworm on a mulberry leaf on the reverse.	1733	Hung in Room No. 17

CHURCHWARDENS' ACCOUNTS.

A reference to this, one of the most valuable series in the whole collection, has already been made in the introductory essay; but their abounding richness in interesting detail entitles them to more than the passing notice there given. Every volume, every number, and, indeed, every page, presents something worthy of attention. It may, therefore, be more convenient to preface the list by a brief synoptical view of their contents, and of the times of which they tell. The accounts extending over the first hundred and fifty years—1460 to 1610—were bound together in six books in 1730.

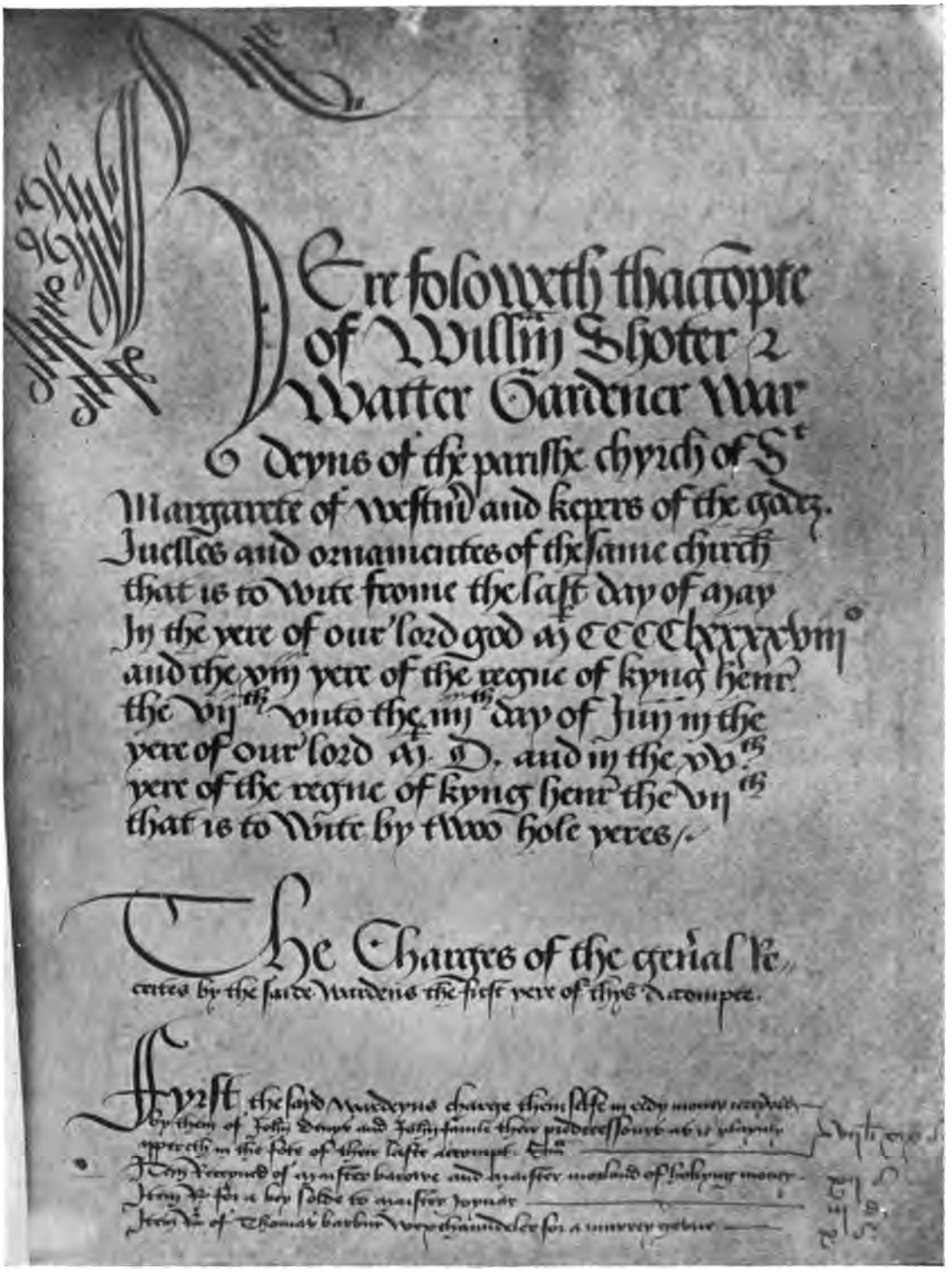
Book "A," which extends over the reigns of Edward IV., Edward V., Richard III., Henry VII., and then enters upon that of Henry VIII., passes through the period disturbed by the Wars of the Roses, and by the change from the Plantagenet to the Tudor line.

Among the sources of revenue shown by the accounts were:—

I. The Collections on the Gathering Days. These were at first on Whit Sunday, St. Margaret's Day (July 20), All Hallows' Day (Nov. 1), "The Nativity of our Lord God" (Dec. 25), Good Friday, and on Easter Day for the Paschall, when the amount received in 1474 was £5 5s. 1d., the other days contributing only £6 11s. 5d. between them. There were some changes, however, made in the days, and at the end of the period Good Friday is omitted, and a collection made on Hock Monday and Hock Tuesday, which occurred shortly after Easter, and were said to have been kept in memory of the overthrow of the Danes, and to have no religious significance.*

* Chambers's Book of Days gives an instructive sketch of Hock-tide sports and customs:—"A fortnight after Easter our forefathers celebrated a popular anniversary, the origin and meaning of which has been the subject of some dispute. It was called Hoke-tide, or Hock-tide, and occupied two days, the Monday and Tuesday following the second Sunday after Easter, though the Tuesday was considered the principal day. On this day it was the custom for the women to go out into the streets and roads with cords, and stop and bind all those of the other sex they met, holding them till they purchased their release by a small contribution of money. On the Monday, the men had proceeded in the same way towards the women.

"The meaning of the word hoke, or hock, seems to be totally unknown, and none of the derivations yet proposed seem to be deserving of our consideration. The custom may be traced, by its name at least, as far back as the thirteenth century, and appears to have prevailed in all parts of England, but it became obsolete early in the last century. At Coventry, which was a great place for pageantry, there was a play or pageant attached to the ceremony, which, under the title of 'The Old Coventry Play of Hock Tuesday,' was performed before Queen Elizabeth during her visit to Kenilworth in July, 1575. It represented a series of combats between the English and Danish forces, in which twice the Danes had the better, but at last by the arrival of the Saxon women to assist their



Here foloweth thaccompte of Willm Shoter & Watter Gardener Wardeyns of the parishe chyrch of St Margarete of westm and kepers of the godez. Juelles and ornamentes of the same chirch that is to wite frome the last day of may In the yere of our lord god M CCCCLxxxxviij and the xiij yere of the regne of kyng henr the vij th unto the iiij th day of Juny in the yere of our lord M D. and in the xv th yere of the regne of kyng henr the vij th that is to wite by twoo hole yeres/.

The Charges of the general Receites by the saide Wardens the first yere of thys accompte.

Fyrst the sayd Wardeyns charge them selfe in eedy money receyved by them of John Denys and John Famile their predecessours as it playnly appereth in the fote of their laste accompt. Eccl.

Item receyved of maister barowe and maister morlond of hokyng money xij s.

Item ... for a bey solde to maister Joynar iij s.

Item ... of Thomas barbur wexchaundeler for a murrey gevne x s.

FIRST PAGE OF CHURCHWARDENS' ACCOUNTS, 1498-1500.

[Note the receipt of xijd. " of hokyng money " in the third line from the foot.]

II. Burial Fees, derived principally by the sale of tapers and torches (which apparently were manufactured by the Churchwardens), and for the knells "with the great bell." The prices of the tapers vary, but 2d. was the ordinary charge. They were purchased not only at the burial, but also at the obit or time of death, and subsequently when the deceased was remembered at the 'monthmyndes' and the 'yearmyndes.'

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countrymen, the Danes were overcome, and many of them were led captive in triumph by the women. Queen Elizabeth 'laughed well' at this play, and is said to have been so much pleased with it, that she gave the actors two bucks and five marks in money. The usual performance of this play had been suppressed in Coventry soon after the Reformation, on account of the scenes of riot which it occasioned.

"It will be seen that this Coventry play was founded on the statement which had found a place in some of our chronicles as far back as the fourteenth century, that these games of Hock-tide were intended to commemorate the massacre of the Danes on St. Brice's Day, 1002; while others, alleging the fact that St. Brice's day is the 13th of November, suppose it to commemorate the rejoicings which followed the death of Hardicanute, and the accession of Edward the Confessor, when the country was delivered from Danish tyranny. Others, however, and probably with more reason, think that these are both erroneous explanations; and this opinion is strongly supported by the fact that Hock Tuesday is not a fixed day, but a moveable festival, and dependent on the great Anglo-Saxon pagan festival of Easter, like the similar ceremony of heaving, still practised on the borders of Wales on Easter Monday and Tuesday. Such old pagan ceremonies were preserved among the Anglo-Saxons long after they became Christians, but their real meaning was gradually forgotten, and stories and legends, like this of the Danes, afterwards invented to explain them. It may also be regarded as a confirmation of the belief that this festival is the representation of some feast connected with the pagan superstitions of our Saxon forefathers, that the money which was collected was given to the church, and was usually applied to the reparation of the church buildings. We can hardly understand why a collection of money should be thus made in commemoration of the overthrow of the Danish influence, but we can easily imagine how, when the festival was continued by the Saxons as Christians, what had been an offering to some one of the pagan gods might be turned into an offering to the church.

"The entries on this subject in the old churchwardens' registers of many of our parishes, not only show how generally the custom prevailed, but to what an extent the middle classes of society took part in it. In Reading these entries go back to a rather remote date, and mention collections by men as well as women, while they seem to show that then the women 'hocked,' as the phrase was, on the Monday, and the men on Tuesday. In the registers of the parish of St. Lawrence, under the year 1499, we have:—

'Item, received of Hock money gaderyd of women, xxs.
Item, received of Hok money gaderyd of men, iiijs.'

And in the parish of St. Giles, under the date 1535—

'Hoc money gatheryd by the wyves (women), xiiis. ixd.'

And in St. Mary's parish, under the year 1559—

'Hoctyde money, the men's gathering, iiijs.
The women's, xiis.'

"Out of this money it would appear that the 'wyves,' who always gained most, were in Reading treated with a supper, for we find in the churchwardens' accounts of St. Giles's parish, under the year 1526, this entry—

'Paid for the wyves' supper at Hoctyde, xxiiijd.'

"In the year 1450, a bishop of Worcester inhibited these 'Hoctyde' practices, on the ground that they led to all sorts of dissipation and licentiousness. It may be added that it appears, from the entries in the churchwardens' registers of various parishes, that in the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries Hock-tide was called in London 'Hob-tide.'"

Hone, in his Every Day Book, Vol. I., p. 476, gives a somewhat similar account, but with some additional particulars:—

HOCK OR HOKE DAY OR TIDE.

"Antiquaries are exceedingly puzzled respecting the derivation of this annual festival, which commenced the fifteenth day after Easter, and was, therefore, a moveable feast dependent upon Easter. * * * At Hock-*tide*, which seems to have included Monday and Tuesday, collections of Hock-money were made in various parishes by the churchwardens until the Reformation. Tuesday was the principal day. Hock Monday was for the men, and Hock Tuesday for the women. On both days the men and women alternately, with great merriment, intercepted the public roads with ropes, and pulled passengers to them, from whom they exacted money to be laid out for pious uses; Monday probably having been originally kept as only the vigil or introduction to the festival of Hock-day. * * * *

"It is a tradition that the festival was instituted to commemorate the massacre of the Danes in England, under Ethelred, in the year 1002; a supposition, however, wholly insupportable, because that event happened on the feast of St. Brice, in the month of November. Another and more reasonable opinion is, that the institution celebrated the final extinction of the Danish power by the death of Hardicanute, on the 6th day before the ides of June, 1042.* Yet in relation to the former event "certain good hearted men of Coventry" petitioned, "that they might renew their old storial show" of the Hock-tide play before queen Elizabeth, when she was on a visit to the Earl of Leicester, at his castle of Kenilworth, in July, 1575. According to "Laneham's letter," this "storial show" set forth how the Danes were for quietness borne, and allowed to remain in peace withal, until on the said St. Brice's night they were "all despatched and the realm rid;" and because the matter did show "in action and rhymes" how valiantly our English

*Allen's Hist. of Lambeth.

The following is an example of the entries :—

1475	Item, at the burying of Wm. Broke, for four torches	vjs. viijd.
	Item for the Pytt in the Church	vjs. viijd.
	Item for the Knyll with the great bell ...	vjd.
1475	Item at the monthmynde of William Broke for four torches	vjs. viijd.

III. Pew Rents, which in 1480 varied from 12d. to 3s. 4d. per annum, and produced a sum of £3 5s. 4d. for the year.*

IV. Rents (£7 4s. 10d.) from Abyngdon's houses (bequeathed by Abyngdon, a priest), which were occupied by a Sanctuary man and others, and for which a quit rent of 2s. 6d. was paid to the Abbey.

The Disbursements are in many cases of curious interest, e.g. :—

The purchase of wax and its manufacture costing, in one year, £11 13s. 9d.; payment of 8d. for bread, ale, and wine on Palm Sunday, and Holy (probably Maundy) Thursday, when Passion was done; 6d. for bread and ale for the two men who watched the Sepulchre, in addition to their fee of 12d. for the two nights.

The usual payment for a day's labour seems to have been 4d.; a sack of "lyme" cost 2d., and two loads of the same 10d.; a load of loam 4d.

The charges for the purchase and repair of Ornaments in 1510 include two new Banners, one of the Trinity, and another of St. Margaret, with the money that was gathered on Hock Monday and Hock Tuesday, and the Goldsmith's account for Silver Candlesticks and Censer.

But the entries of the greatest interest in this volume relate to William Caxton, who appears to have attended the meetings of 'parishioners in Vestry assembled.'

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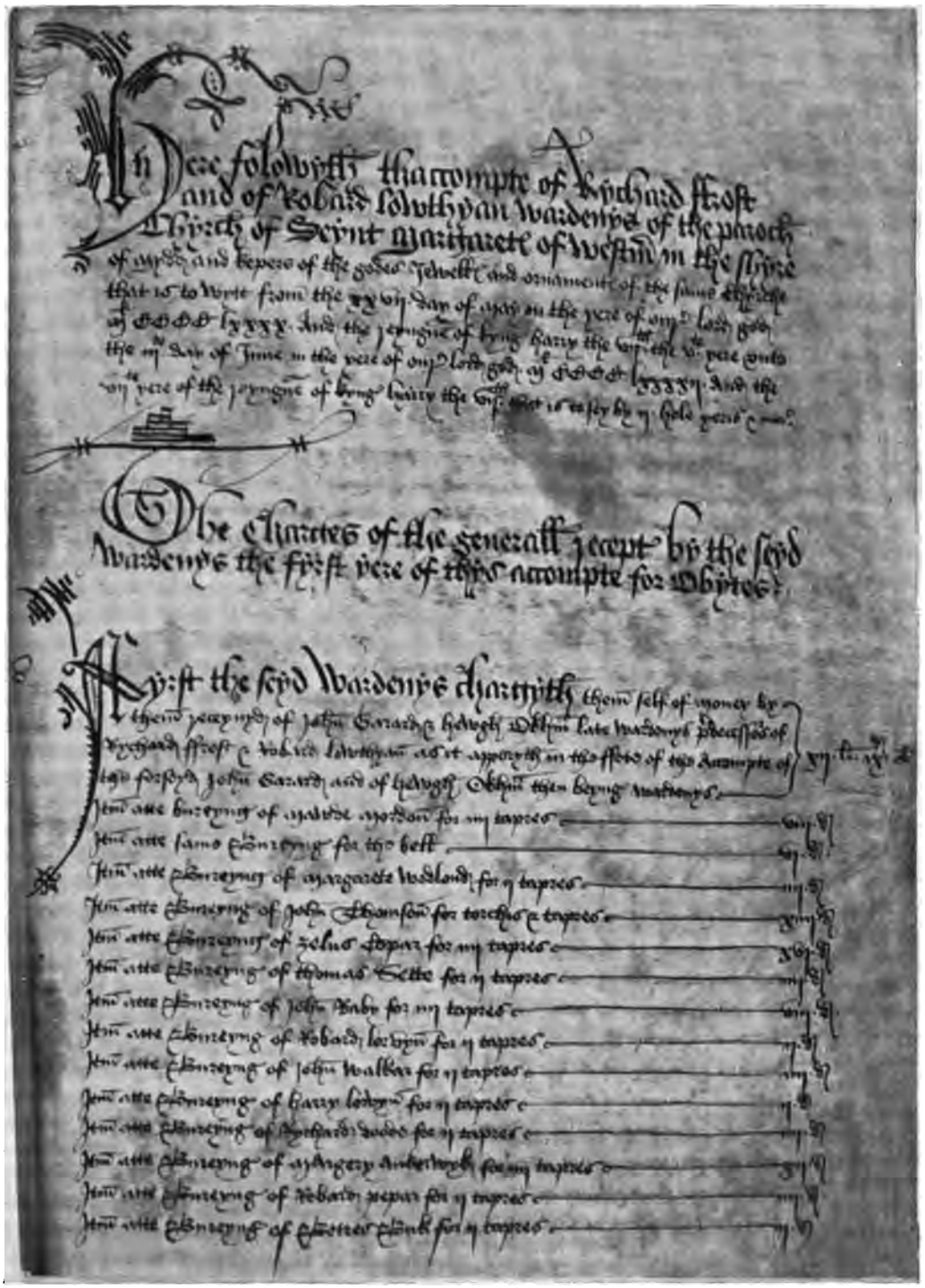
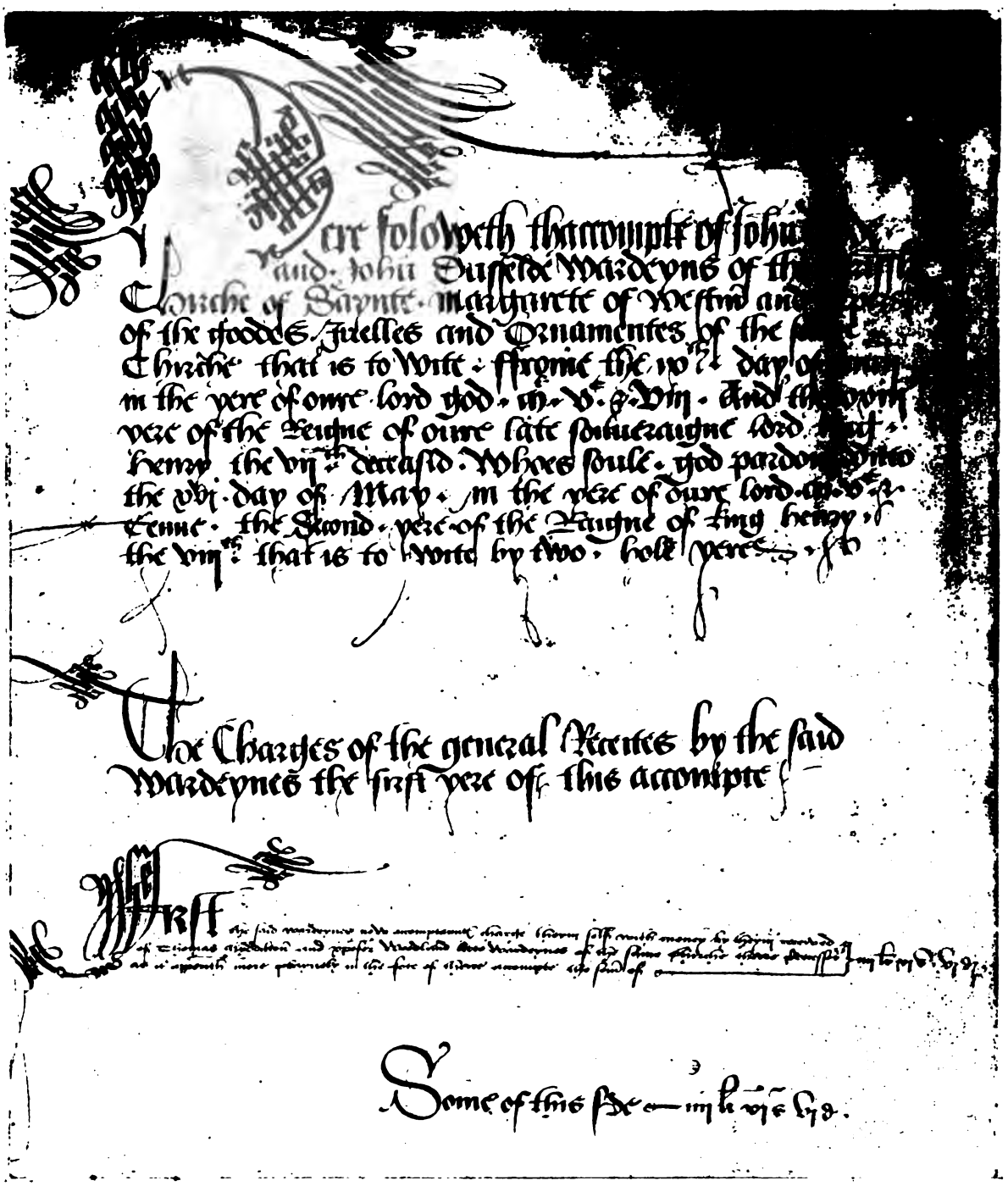
women for love of their country, behaved, the "men of Coventry" thought it might move some mirth in her Majesty. "The thing," said they, "is grounded in story, and for pastime (was) wont to be played in our city yearly without ill example of manners, papistry, or any superstition;" and they knew no cause why it was then of late laid down, "unless it was by the zeal of certain of their preachers; men very commendable for their behaviour and learning, and sweet in their sermons, but somewhat too sour in preaching away their pastime." By license, therefore, they got up their Hock-tide play at Kenilworth, wherein "Capt. Cox," a person here indescribable without hindrance to most readers, "came marching on valiantly before, clean trussed and garnished above the knee, all fresh in a velvet cap flourishing with his ton-sword, and another fence-master with him, making room for the rest. Then proudly came the Danish Knights on horseback, and then the English, each with their alder pole martially in their hand." The meeting at first waxing warm, then kindled with courage on both sides into a hot skirmish, and from that into a blazing battle with spear and shield; so that, by outrageous races and fierce encounters, horse and man sometimes tumbled to the dust. There they fell to with sword and target, and did clang and bang, till the fight so ceasing, afterwards followed the foot of both hosts, one after the other marching, wheeling, forming in squadrons, triangles and circles, and so winding out again; and then got they so grisly together that, inflamed on each side, twice the Danes had the better, but at the last were quelled, and so being wholly vanquished, many were led captive in triumph by our English women. This matter of good pastime was wrought under the window of her Highness, who, beholding in the chamber delectable dancing, and therewith great thronging of the people, saw but little of the Coventry play; wherefore her Majesty commanded it on the Tuesday following, to have it full out, and, being then accordingly presented, her Highness laughed right well. Then, too, played the "good-hearted men of Coventry" the merrier, and so much the more, because her Majesty had given them two bucks, and five marks in money; and they prayed for her Highness long happily to reign, and oft to come thither, that oft they might see her; and rejoicing upon their ample reward, and triumphing upon their good acceptance, vaunted their play was never so dignified, nor ever any players before so beatified."

* At this period, as earlier, the naves of many churches were to a great extent devoid of furniture, as are those of some of our cathedrals to the present time. The introduction of pews for the convenience of worshippers was, says the Rev. J. E. Vaux, F.S.A., in his entertaining *Church Folklore*, very gradual. "Most writers who touch on the subject consider that these fixed seats in churches were introduced in the reign of Henry VIII., but this is incorrect, for I find a notice of their existence nearly a hundred years before his time." Mr. Vaux adduces an entry from the St. Margaret's Churchwardens' Accounts for 1498-1500 in confirmation of his statement. He had apparently overlooked the entry of 1480.



FIRST PAGE OF CHURCHWARDENS' ACCOUNTS, 1490-2.

V.-VII. years of "King Harry the vijth." See the sixth and last lines of the caption.



Here foloweth thaccompte of Johu[illegible]
and Johu Dusselde Wardeyns of th[illegible]
Chirche of Saynte Margarete of Westm and [illegible]
of the goodes Juelles and Ornamentes of the [illegible]
Chirche that is to Wite ffrome the xv^th day of [illegible]
in the yere of oure lord god m^c v^c ß viij And th[illegible]
yere of the Reigne of oure late souueraigne lord [illegible]
henry the vij^th deceasid Whoes soule god pardon [illegible]
the xvj day of May in the yere of oure lord m^c v^c ß
Eenne the Second yere of the Raigne of king henry
the viij^th that is to Wite by two hole yeres

The Charges of the general Receites by the said
Wardeynes the first yere of this accompte

First [illegible]

Some of this side — iiij li xj s vj d.

Caption of Churchwardens' Accounts, 1508-10.

In 1479, 1s. 8d. is charged for 2 torches and 4 tapers at a low mass at the burying of Caxton's father. Caxton's name appears as witness and auditor of the Churchwardens' Accounts. He bequeaths books "called Legends" to the Church, and in 1491 is entered:—

"Item, atte bureying of William Caxton for iiij torches, vjs. viijd."
"Item, for the belle atte same bureying, vjd."*

The second volume of these interesting records was marked by the Churchwardens of 1730, who had them bound, "B," and covers the period from 1510 to 1530. These twenty years extend over the first half of the reign of Henry VIII., during the greater part of which the Reformation was in progress. Luther was preaching boldly in Germany; the movement had spread to Switzerland and Denmark, and France, under Calvin's teaching, was beginning to be moved by it. King Henry, who had written in support of the doctrines of the Roman Church, in 1521 received the title from the Pope of "Defender of the Faith," so the time for the Reformation in England was not yet. It was rapidly approaching, however, for the suggestion had already been made that the Pope's supremacy should be repudiated.

The Revenues of the Churchwardens, as here recorded, arise from very much the same sources as before. Tapers are still sold, apparently with undiminished demand, at the old prices. "Peales" of bells, in addition to "Knylles" at 6d., can be had by the well-to-do for 2s. at "beryalls," month-myndes and year-myndes.

The "Gaderyng days," including Hok-Monday and Hok-Tuesday, produce nearly the same amount as before. Pew-rents are still collected, and in addition to the receipts from "Abyngdon's Rents" (not always easily obtained) the following are posted:—

"Item. Receyvyd of Nicholas Wyse, of Hendon, for his ferme rent of the land belongyng to the fyndyng of the lamps in the queyre (choir) for the first year of this accompte ... xviiis.

Extraordinary "fforeyn-receiptes" must have been the following:—

1514 Item receyved of Courte the Bedyll ffor a ffedder bed, that the clerks had to lye upon in the Vestry† ... ... viiis.
Item receyved of John Lawrence for stuff of the Church lent to my Lord Dudley for a preeste to sing wt. all ... ... xxd.

Those who recollect the revival of the volunteer movement forty years ago, will not be unfamiliar with the sobriquet of "feather-bed soldiers" as applied to the newly-formed corps; but no one would think, nowadays, of associating feather beds with public life, or of seeking repose in the parish vestry room.

Considerable expenditure was caused "touching the steple." In 1518 the workmen's wages for the year (52 weeks) amounted to £65 10s. 7d.. The master-mason received 3s. 4d. per week; masons, "handleyers," carpenters, 8d. per day; labourers, 4d. a day; Barnestone and Kayn (Caen) stone each cost 5s. the ton; Rygate stone, 4s. 8d. the ton; Rag-stone, 13d. and 14d. the ton; flints, 10d. the load; lime, 6s. 4d. the load; chalk, 8d. the ton; sand, 2d. or 3d. the load; timber, 5s. 4d. the load; a rope to make a pair of slyngs, 6d.; a ladder of 17 steps, 16d.

Clerks' wages are also given for collecting in 1514 in Kyngestrete, totehil strete and Long ditch, Sanctuary, St. Stephen's Aley, Wol-staple, and Charyng crosse.

But probably the most interesting thing in the book is a complete inventory of the "Goodes, Juelles, and Ornaments" in 1511, which will be found among the appendices.

In the third volume, which is marked "C," are the accounts from 1530 to 1550, a period covering the last half of the reign of Henry VIII., and the com-

* The extract is given in full on page 42.
† The purchase of a bedstead is shown in the accounts for 1488-4.

mencement of that of Edward VI.—an important time of transition in ecclesiastical matters. The Declaration of the King's supremacy in 1534, and the consequent abrogation of the Pope's authority, apparently made no immediate change in Church ceremonies and customs. It is not until 1542 that the Churchwardens of St. Margaret's describe the King as "Defender of the Faith, and in Erthe of the Church of England and also of Ireland, Supreme Head." How gradual was the change may be seen by these entries, which occur in juxtaposition in 1539:—

> Ffyrst payd to Robert Graunt for a hole suyte of vestmets of blewe velvett wt Aungells and a cope to the same suyte, pre of all, xl.
>
> Item, payd for the half pte of the Bybell accordyngly after the King's Injunctoyne, ixs. ixd.
>
> Item, payd for a desk for the Bybell, iijs. viijd.

But in the last five years to which this volume relates changes came more rapidly. In 1545 £21 19s. 4d. is received for old broken plate "by the Adviss of the Masters of the Parish towards the bying of the hie alter table," and in the next two years 4s. 8d. for old brass, with 6s. 8d. and 2s. 4d. for two Tabernacles that stood in Trinity Chapel. In 1548, when the Boy-King Edward VI. was newly seated on the throne, Patrick Kelly, plasterer, is paid for lyme and other stuff for "the whytting" of the Church, £8 os. 10d., while the same year's accounts record that 12s. 8d. was paid "for a honest dysshe of mete and for wyne for the Kinge's Visitours." Whether they came to contemplate the newly whitened Church or upon some other occasion is not told. The expenditure of 18d., two years earlier, for "6 books of the Littony in English" is much pleasanter to contemplate.

As might have been supposed, the mundane joys connected with religious ceremonies were not allowed in the days of "Bluff King Hal" to fall into disuse. Holly and ivy are still purchased for the Christmas decorations. The observance of St. Margaret's Day (July 20) might wane and disappear, but the feast of Corpus Christi a few weeks earlier replaced it. Bread, ale, and wine for the Worshipful of the Parish then cost 4s.; flowers and garlands,* 20d.; bearing of 4 torches, 8d.; bearing of 2 crosses, 4d.. Dedication Day, which these accounts tell us is always the first Sunday in October, is more prominently brought forward, and 6 Burdens of Rushes, in 1548, to strew the Church,† are bought in anticipation of it, at a cost of 18d. Bread, ale, and beer for the worshipful of the Parish seem to have been necessary adjuncts to its observance, as well as to that of Palm Sunday and Whit Sunday.

The receipts for Tapers, Torches, Knells, and Peals continue to flourish. The loan of the Serklett to be worn by maidens at their marriage brings in a shilling a time (reduced to 8d. on one occasion for a mayd in pety ffraunce), but the fee of 8d. for the use of the Clothe of St. George (pall) produces, in 1545 and 1546, 41s. 4d. each year. The Gathering days diminish to Whit Sunday, Dedication Day, All Hallows' Day, and Easter. Nicholas Wyse, the occupier of the lampe lande at Hendon, pays throughout the whole period 18s. a year "for the lampe in the Quere burning before the Blessed Sacrement" (1544).

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* Garlands of rosemary and woodruff were formerly used to decorate the churches on St Barnabas' Day (June 11), as appears from many old entries in church books, *e.g.*—in the Churchwardens' Accounts of St. Mary-at-Hill, 1478-80, "For Rose garlandis and Woodrove garlandis on St. Barnabas' Day, xjd. The reason why woodruff was used Gerard tells in his *Historie of Plantes*, p. 965:—It doth well attemper the aire, and cool and make fresh the place, to the delight and comfort of such as are therein." [The Rev. J. E. Vaux, F.S.A., *Church Folklore*, p. 267.] There were also burial garlands which continued to be hung in churches so recently as 1873; but as they were provided by the friends of the deceased, the charges for them would not appear in these accounts. Mr. Vaux, who gives many instances of their use, quotes from the *Gentleman's Magazine*, 1747, p. 264, and *The Reliquary*, vol. I., p. 7.

† The origin of the custom of "rush-bearing" and strewing the churches with rushes appears to be lost in obscurity. Brand in his *Popular Antiquities* refers to it at length. By some writers it is attributed to the dampness of the earthen floors, or rather to the absence of floors before stone flagging was used; by others it is considered to have been brought into use as a protection against the coldness of the stone flooring; but, although the Rush-bearing Festival was kept at various times in different localities, it almost invariably took place in the dry season—between May and October. Entries relating to the expenditure of churchwardens for strewing rushes abound in the parochial accounts of parishes in all parts of the country, as early as 1504 and as late as 1864, when the rush-cart was last used in Rochdale. An article in a popular magazine for May, 1900, gives a photograph of the "Rush-bearing wake" at Delph, presumably in Yorkshire, as held in 1892. Numerous references are made to the custom in Hone's *Every Day Book*, *Table Book* and *Year Book*.

The items of expenditure are full of other interesting details, but only three more can be given here:—

1537	Item paid for ringing of bells when Te Deum (at the birth of Edward VI.) was songe, and again to the Queene (Jane Seymour) dirge	xiid.
1547	Also payd to the Ringers at King Henry the VIIIth his dirge in the Parish Church	viiid.
1549	Also payd for Bred, Ale, and Wyne for the Gentelmen and Childerne of the King's Chapell for ther paynes in helpvng of the Divine Service at the Blessid Communion on Or. Lady's Day in Lent.	

The twenty years covered by the fourth volume marked "D," (1550-1570), were among the most eventful to be found in English History. At their commencement the youthful Edward VI. had been on the throne barely three years, during which time the Reformation had been proceeding apace. There were still some few things remaining connected with the old worship, e.g., the "Overplusse of a Crosse" increases the revenues by £18 7s. 10d., and "also a lyttel whyght Box garnished wt. Sylver" by 5s.; but the "takynge downe of the iij Aulters and the barynge oute of the Rubbes of them" cost 5s. 1d. The fabric of the Church itself had tempted the despoiling hands of Protector Somerset, but had happily been preserved through the vigorous and defiant action of the parishioners. The nakedness of the interior of the Church, now that its old ornaments had been banished, seems to have become uncomfortably apparent. Consequently appears "Also payde to a Carpynter for a dayes workynge for to set up the skaffold for hym that did wryght the vj chapter of Saynte Johnes Gospell in ye. qre., viijd." The writer received 40s. for this, 13s. 4d. for additional work in the choir, as well as £3 9s. 8d. for "wrytynge and trymynge of the Northe yle and the Sowthe yle." The "makynge of ij Communyon cuppes" (for the use of the laity) cost £9 6s. 8d., two others cost £4 4s. 11d., and 10s. was paid for a new "table for the Blessed Comunyon."

The debased condition of the silver coinage, which was not rectified until Queen Elizabeth took the matter in hand, probably accounts for the entry:—

> "Ffyrder, the sayde Accomptantes dothe aske alowance of and for the losse of the fall of the money, £3 6s. 7d."

But the accounts for the years 1553-4 show many changes. Master Hogys pays 6s. 8d. for the "grate ship cheste." Upon the accession of Mary to the throne, however, the sale of discarded articles ceases, and the purchase of a variety of things to refurnish the Church has prompt attention, e.g.:—

> "A manuell an ymnall & a precessionall," cost 8s.
> "iij Greate Antiphoners, ij Grayles and a Masse Booke," cost 44s.
> "A blew Chesable of satten of bridgis wt. flowers wt. stole & fannell and for a holly water stock," cost 10s.

A pix of Copper all gylte, a Censer of Copper, iij payre of latten Candillstickes, Grene sylke lase, Taffata, iiij Gylte Knoppes and iiij Tasselles, etc., etc., have to be purchased. Sir John Arundell, Knyght, gives 50s. "towards the byenge of necessarys to the churche." The Comunyon Table sells for 8s. Labourers get 4d. for beryng the holy water stocke from Mr. Smallwoodes house." Mr. Brown's servant receives 8d. upon his bringing the Cope, "the which his Mr. dyd gyve, to the churche."

The ringers get 16d. for ringing on three occasions for her Majesty, and there is "Allso payde for bread and drynke on ashewensday at the Victory & overthrowe of Wiat and his Adherentes" to the extent of 8d.

A few months later a painter receives 12d. to wash out the Scripture decorations, in obedience to an order given by Bishop Bonner, presumably when he attended at the Reconcyliacon of the Church, under circumstances to be presently referred to.

Once again the accounts tell of the receipts from tapers and torches at funerals and yeremyndes (including that of Edward VI.), and for the maintenance of the Sanctuary lampe. A new "ymage" of St. Margaret has been carved and the rood-loft and its figures restored. The Queen, in spite of all remonstrances, has married Philip II., King of Spain, at once the most powerful monarch in Europe and the most devoted son of the Roman Church. St. Margaret's bells ring out merrily "when the Kyng and the Quene cam from Rychemonde to Sowthewarke, & so from thens to Westmynst," and again "when the Kyng and the Queenes Matis. cam to the Mynster to the Masse of the Holy Ghost." The Title-page of these accounts declares that they are made up to the "xvi day of May in the Seconde and Third yeres of Philyp and Mary by the Grace of God Kynge and Quene of Englande Spayne Fraunce both Sicylles Jherusalem and Irelande defendours of the faythe Archdukes of Austria, Dukes of Burgon Millayne and Brabante Counties of Haspurge Flaunders and Tyroll." But only once are these titles repeated. When the accounts for 1555-6 are transcribed the long reign of Elizabeth has commenced, and the "pticuler payments" for the latter year begin with:—

Fyrst payde for a Bybill and a Parafrawse	xvjs.
Item for a Comunion Booke bound in Parchemyne ...	vjs.
Item payd to John Riall for his iij dayse work to take down the Roode Mary and John	ijs. viijd.
Item to John Riall for taking down the Tabill on the highe Alter and taking down the holly water stock	xijd
Item to iiij poore men for beryng of the Alter Tabill to Mr. Hodgis	ivd.

And so the old order changed once more, giving place to the new. It is curious to note that amidst all changes two payments never vary:—

Item to the Scavenger for his yere wagies	xvjd.
Item for broomes for the space of one holle yere	viijd.

The accounts for the years 1555-6 contain no entry relating to the burning of Branch or Flower, the monk of Ely, the assassin of the officiating minister, a priest of the Abbey, who was administering the Holy Communion in St. Margaret's church on Easter Day. He was tried by Bishop Bonner and "bornyed against St. Margrett Chyrche without the chyrche yard in the Sanctuary." The occurrence is graphically recorded in "Machyn's Diary," from which an extract is made in Walcott's *Memorials*, Ed. 1849, p. 95. The cost of the faggots and other necessaries may have been defrayed from the Abbey funds; but the disbursements in connection with the reconciliation of the Church are shown in the page of the accounts reproduced opposite. If an inference may be drawn from the items of the "Bysshoppes Dinner" on the occasion, the function must have been of a very exhausting character. A few of the items are transcribed at p. 46.

The numbers bound together in the volume marked "E," relate to the years 1570-1590, the longest section of Queen Elizabeth's rule, she having reigned 12 years previously and 13 years subsequently. The Churchwardens' receipts are shown to have been derived mainly from Graves, at 1d. and upwards; from Knells, at 4d.; from Peals of Bells, from 18d. to 6s. 8d.; and from "Herse Clothes," lent at 4d. to 20d., and from the letting of Pews.

There are some miscellaneous receipts of special interest. Contributions of 2s. 7d. in one year for Bread and Wine for Communion; 16s. 4d. for armour; £5 7s. for Chalice and Paten silver parcel gilt; 20s. for copes for gold; and 4s. for certain "shredds" of gold are instances, and, omitting the first item, tell of the gradual dispersion of the Ornaments and Jewels of the Church of which the churchwardens acknowledged themselves to be the custodians. An interesting view of this matter is obtained by comparing the Inventory of 1572 with that of 1511, given in the appendices.

Token money produced at Easter, 1571, £5 6s. 4d., and on Trinity Sunday, 4s. 6d. It is not clear to which class of tokens the entries relate—whether to trading tokens or to communion tokens. The former are believed to have come into

Item payde for viij elles of hollande Clothe for a Surples
for the Curat price the ell xij d. — viij s.
Item payde for the makyng of the Curates surples — ij s. viij d.
Item payde for the makyng of iij Surplesses for the clarkes — ij s.
Item payde for the makyng of ij Albes — xvj d.
Item payde for ij lampe Glasses — iiij d.
Item payde for pynnes, nayles and hookys — j d.
Item payde for tapes — j d.
Item payde for a payre of Cruettes — xij d.
Item payde so two holly water sprynkylle — vj d.
Item payde for a Manuell in parchement — vj s. viij d.
Item payde for a bottyll for oyle — iiij d.
Item payde for Normandye Canvs xij elles for the vayle — xij s. iij d.
Item payde for the payntyng therof for lerying
and Ringes to the same — viij s.
Item payde for a Quarter to lye in the tynytie wyndow — vj d.
Item payde for a peace of Lyne for the Vayle — iiij d.
Item payde for tape for the vayle — j d.
Item payde for nayles and hookes — j d.
Item payde for ix yardes of Buckeram for to lyne
thaller clothe at the Trymtie Alter whichs a Browne gave — iiij s. vj d.
Item payde to the Broderer for makyng of the same — ij s. viij d.
Item payde for pynnes Nayles and hookis for the Sepulchre — iij d.
Item payde for a Shovell — vj d.
Item payde for a Sack of Coles on Ester evyn — viij d.
Item payde for settyng up and takyng downe the Sepulchre
And mendyng of the greate Candylstickes — viij d.
Item for mendyng the coffer in the high Alles table — ij d.
Item payde to ij men for watchyng the Sepulchre
light on goode fryday nyght & Ester evyn — xvj d.
Item payde for xxviij l. of wax at vij d. the pounde — xvij s. vj d.
Item payde for iij Capons for the Bisshoppes
dynner at the Reconcyliacon of the Churche — vij s.
Item payde for hallfe a vele — v s. vj d.
Item payde for iiij Grene geese — ij s. iiij d.
Item payde for a dosyn of Rabettes — ij s. viij d.
Item payde for a dosyn of Pigions — ij s. vj d.
Item payde for a Surloyne of beefe — vj s. viij d.
Item payde for ij Gallons of wyne — ij s.
Item payde for breade beere and ale in the vestry — ij s. ij d.
Item payde for ij brusshes of Isoppe — ij d.
Item payde for Salte — j d.
Item payed to a poore man for caryeng of water — j d.
Item payde for mendyng of ij Bawdryckes — vj d.
Item payde for newe stavyng the short ladder — vj d.
Item payde to the Lawndresse for settyng in a newe bande in
the Curattes surplis & mendyng of the Albes and Corvettes — xij d.
Item gevyn in Rewarde to the bysshoppes servantes — x s.
Item payde to the Ringers at the Reconciliacon of the Churche — viij d.

vl. xvij s. iiij d.

A page of the Churchwardens' Accounts for 1555-6, showing, opposite the marks in the left-hand margin, the entries relating to the reconciliation of St. Margaret's Church, referred to in the opposite page.

Extract from the Churchwardens' Accounts of 1552, showing in the fifth line the receipt of £3 for the grave of Mr. Richard Cecil, father of Lord Burghley, and ancestor of Lord Salisbury, K.G.

use in the reign of Henry VIII. to supply the lack of authorised coins representing the fractions of a penny, and during this reign stamped tokens of lead, tin, and even leather were issued by vintners, grocers, and other tradesmen, and had a large circulation. They could be exchanged for goods or current coin of the realm at the shops where they were issued. The latter were used as a means of securing the Church against unfit communicants. They were distributed by the parson during the week to intending communicants, and were gathered by the clerk as the custodians presented themselves at the celebration. The instances given by Mr. Vaux show that the custom was in existence in 1627 and 1639.

The Churchwardens also received in 1588, of Mr. Marmaduke Servant, "for the use of the poore to buye Sea Coales, being the Guyfte of the Rt. Honorable the Lord Burleighe, Lord Highe Treasourer of Englande, the soome of £10."

Much money was spent on the ringing of the bells, not only "for joye of the prosperous reign of the Queen," but also to announce her Majesty's arrival or departure from the parish. Whitehall, given to her father by Cardinal Wolsey, is frequently mentioned, as is also Hampton Court, another of Wolsey's buildings, and Greenwich Palace, the Queen's birth-place. Sixpence is thus expended "when the Queen's Majesty came to my Lord of Canterbury's (Whitgift's) house to dinner from Greenwich." The same amount is expended when she visits the camp (Tilbury, 1588), and when she returns.

The Organ-maker gets 18d. every year for his fee; 3d. is spent for half a hundred of Communion breade; 6d. for four new books of Common Prayer (1572), and 28s. for a new Byble of the largest volume.*

The Worshipful of the Parish perambulate to Kensyngton on Tewsdaie in Rogation week, and the Churchwardens and Syde-men partake of the dynner for the Visytation kept at the Sarryzones hed (1586) at a cost of £3 5s.

The volume marked "F" contains the accounts for the years 1590-1610, extending over the closing years of Elizabeth's reign and the first seven years of that of James I. During this time burials were not only a lucrative source of income, but also a cause of expense. Thirty shillings was expended in June, 1590, "for emptinge of the house where the bones and sculls lay and for burying of the same bones and sculls in the corner of the Churchyard by the bricke wall."

In 1594 the burials of 15 "Chrisom" children, i.e., those who died within a month of birth, are distinguished from the others, and also the burial of "a pore soldier who died in the bone-house." Three years later occurs an entry of a shilling being given to "Thomas Whitteredge, Beadle, for his paines taken in going to Paddington with a poore sick man and conveying him out of the p'she," in order to avoid the cost of his maintenance, nursing, and possible burial falling upon the parish. Numerous entries occur of payments of 4s. 4d. to "Mr. Derricke, the high constable, for reliefe of maymed soldiers for one quarter." This was a charge levied by the Constable of the Hundred of Ossulstone, which included Westminster.

But the saddest items in these accounts occur in 1603, when we have the burials of nearly 1,200 persons recorded. The Plague carried off that year in London alone 30,000 persons. A succession of payments was made to Robt. Wells and others for killing about 500 dogges at 1d. each, so that it must have been supposed that they were the means of spreading the disease. In 1592 a

* "No greater moral change ever passed over a nation than passed over England during the years which parted the middle of the reign of Elizabeth from the meeting of the Long Parliament. England became the people of a book, and that book was the Bible. It was as yet the one English book that was familiar to every Englishman. It was read at churches, and read at home; and everywhere its words, as they fell on ears which custom had not deadened to their force and beauty, kindled a startling enthusiasm. * * No history, no romance, no poetry, save the little known verse of Chaucer, existed for any practical purpose in the English tongue when the Bible was ordered to be set up in churches. * * As a mere literary monument the English version of the Bible remains the noblest example of the English tongue. Its perpetual use made it from the instant of its appearance, the standard of our language. * * It formed, we must repeat, the whole literature which was practically accessible to ordinary Englishmen. * * The whole nation, in fact, became a church."—*Green's "History of the English People."*

similar slaughter had taken place, "the firste tyme of infection," and "by Mr. Dean's apointmet," being notes attached to the entries

The Churchwardens and Vestry appear to have had a happy method of combining their social and parochial duties. In 1591 is entered :—

> "Item payd for breade, drincke, cheese, fish, creame, and other necessaries when the worshipful of the p'she went the p'ambutions to Kensington, £5 13s. 4d."

But the next year the perambulations seem to have cost only 10s. of the parish-money; "Clarett, wyne, and sacke," 3s. 4d. "A dynner for the visitacon, as doth appeare by a byll," cost £3 10s. 3d.; and a "quarte of Muskadell at the Visitacon, 10d.," speak for themselves. The Singing men of the Colledge get 20s. yearly towards the cost of their annual dinner in return for their occasional help in St. Margaret's.

A gift of 20s. was bestowed on "Jhon Crevenne alias ffote, a pore scoller borne in this parish, after a sermon by him made in this church by consent of such of the Vestry as were present at that sermon."

Payments for ffrancinnsence and "juneper," doubtless for fumigating the Church, and for "sweete powder for the linen," are not uncommon.

References are made to the determination of Lady Dacre to establish Almshouses in the parish, and of repairs to the Almshouses in Pettie ffraunce and S. Ermyn's Hill, variously called, at other times, St. Armille's, Torman's, Armon's, and St. Armet's.

In 1603 there was payd for ringinge at the funerall of the Queene (Elizabeth), xiid., and later the ringers were paid for their peals on Gowrie's Day (Aug. 5) and Gunpowder Day (Nov. 5) in thankfulness for King James's escape from assassination by Ruthven, Earl of Gowrie, and from being blown up by Guy Fawkes.

With this, the last of the volumes bound by the churchwardens of 1730, the synopsis of the contents must end. From 1610 to 1847 the series relating to St. Margaret's parish continues without a break; while the accounts relating to St. John's from 1729, the end of the first year of the separate existence of the parish, to 1847, are complete. These annual or biennial numbers must now be left to tell their own tale by the extracts, made almost at random, reproduced from them. As aids to the elucidation of some of these, annotations have occasionally been introduced, and the photographic camera has been brought into requisition, that the reader may find himself conducted in an agreeable manner through the lights and shades of the last four centuries. The extracts referred to will, as a rule, be found to follow the year's accounts from which they are taken; but as the first collection extends over many years, they have been placed immediately before the schedule, in order to avoid so long an interruption of the list itself. The earlier extracts are transcribed from Nichols' *Illustrations of the Manners and Expenses of Antient Times in England* (1797); but owing to the discovery of some obvious slips, have been verified with the original entries :—

> 1460-61 Compus Johis. Meriden & Johis. Whitney, custod' bonor' Ecclesie pochial Ste. Margarete Westm', anno xv° die menso' Maii, anno Sti. Imp' Hen' Sexti Regis Angl' de facto non de jure xxxvii, usque vii diem ejusdem mens' Maii, anno secundo Regis Edwardi Quarti, scil' p duos annos integros.
>
> Item, rec' de Johe. Braddyns die sepultur Robti. Thorp gen' p iii tor. ... ... vjs. viijd.
> Item, rec' die sepultur' de la Ancrese pro iiij tapr'... viijd.
> Item, deliv' at Dño Cancellar' Dñi Regis, prædict' die Martii per assen' totius ville p guerris dict' Dñi Regis ... ... x li.

The whole of this number is more or less decayed, and the earlier pages are almost illegible from stains. The caption has, nevertheless, been photographed :—

[*The Accompts of Johannis Meriden and Johannis Witney, custodians of the ornaments of the parish of Ste. Margarete Westm. from the 15th day of Maie in the 38th yeare of Henry VI. "King by facte and not by right," &c. &c.*]

1464 Item, rec' de persona Convict' die sepult ... ..
1465 Item, rec' die obit' Johis. Gray militis ... ...
Item, rec' die sepult'-cujus d' pauperis apud Chayring
1466 Item, rec' pro sepult' ejusdem Agnetis in Capellâ beatæ Mariæ Virginis infra Ecclesiam prædict' ... vjs. viijd.
Item, rec' die obit' Richard Salkeld, gen. ... ...
Item, rec' die sepult' Heremitæ apud Charyng ...
Item, pro sepult' ejusdem in Capella Sancti Georgii infra Eccles' prædict' ... ...
Item, rec' de D Abbatte West' die sepult' Willi Payn servientis sui ... ...
Item, rec' de Dña Graa die trigintal' Reginaldi patris sui ... ...
Item, rec' die sepult Dñi Johan. Germyn Anchorit' Westm' ... ...
Item, rec' de Jacobo Pemberton, armigero, pro sep sua infra ecclesiam ... ...
Item, rec' die sepult' Clerici Stapulæ ... ...
1467 Item, rec' die sepult' Magestri Johis. Preston, nuper vicarii de Wakefield ... ...
Item, rec' die sepult' pueri unius comorantis in Sellyes Ally ... ...
Item, rec' de Willo Whitney pro sepult' uxoris suæ infra Capella Sanctæ Trin' in ecclesia prædict ...
Item, rec de Thomâ More, die obit Dñi Edwardi Kyrton nuper Abbatis Westm' ... ...
Item, rec' de Cust' Convictor' die sep' Johis. Hede prisonar' ... ...
Item, rec' de Robto' Thorp, die sep' Dionisiæ Swandlond, generosæ, pro sep' suâ infra ecclesiam paroch' prædict' ... ...
Imprimis, in expens' ad tabernam intra parochianos in die comptacois prædecess' cust' prædict'; videlt in pane, ... vd.
Item, in v mut. pyes ad idem temp. ... ... iijd.
Item, in vino rubeo, etc. ... ... iijs.
Item at the burying of a man of my Lord Duresse ...

[The transition from Latin to English will be observed to have taken place in this year.]

1474 Item, at the burying of Thomas Rookes, Gent. ...
Item, at the burying of John Harvy, Squier in Randolfs ... ...

1475 Item, at the day of burying of my Lady Grace ...
Item, at the day of burying of Sir Thomas Grey, Knight, for iiij tapers ... ...
Item, at the burying of Sir John Galter ... ...
Item, for a reward for a boke and chales to Sir Richard Widevyle ... ...
Item for ij great books, called Antiphoners ... ... xxij li.
Item, received of the keeper or master of the New Works ... ...
Item, of the monastre of Seint Peter of Westminster
1476 Also paid to Roger Fylpott, learned in the law, for his counsel-giving to the said late masters in saying of evidence of David Selly, iijs. viijd., with ivd. for his dinner ... ...

Brethren and Sistern in Arrears.

Of Edmond Downe, late pryor of Hurley; of Sir Henry Ward, Knight; of Dame Agnes Hasely; of Robert Shordycke, Squier; of my Lady Graa; of Raynold Colyer, pryor of S. Bartholomew's; of the Duchess of Bed'; William Bartram, Esq.; Richard Ruston, pryor of Hurley; my Lady Willoughby; my Lady Ankerasse; Sir John Mannear, of Batressey; John Rokes, Esq.; Sir Thomas Knolle, vicar of Dachet; John Fogge, Knight; my Lady Harecourt; Sir Roger Ree, Knight.

1478 Item, the day of burying of William Caxton, for ij torces and iiij tapers at a low mass ... ... is. viijd.

[This is accepted, as the result of an investigation made in connection with the Caxton celebration held at South Kensington in 1878, as relating to Caxton's father, to whom the prince of printers appears to have returned from Bruges in 1476-7. The accounts for 1464 contain an item of eightpence received for four tapers at the burial of Oliver Caxton; John Caxton paid 6s. 8d. in 1475-8 on his admission to the Guild; in 1490-2, 3s. 2d. was received "at the bureyng of Mawde Caxston for torches and tapres"; in 1494-6 2d. is received at the burial of Richard Caxton, besides the entry in 1491-2 relating to the printer. These prove the settlement of the family in the parish; but Mr. Blades, in his preparations for the Fourth Centenary Memorial, was unable to identify with certainty the relationship of the several members.]

A curious item in this year's postings is xijd. for "cotyn candyll for the lantern for alle hallowen tyde (All Hallows Even) to Candyllmas (31st October to 2nd February)," from which it is clear that the seasons named, if not all the ceremonies associated with them, were observed. These are referred to, as to Candlemas, by Herrick in his "Hesperides," and as to All Hallows, by Burns in his "Halloween." The superstitions connected with both seasons are collected in Brand's *Popular Antiquities*.

There are also two entries showing that an organ or organs had been placed in the church at this early date:—

For a dore in the rode lofte to save and keep the people fro the orgaynes ... ... xijd.
To Mathew Metynghm for playing at the orgons when we had butt one clerk ... ... viijd.

Although instruments of a more or less rude description had reached England earlier—they are known to have been used in church music in Rome in the eighth century—it was not until the fifteenth century that they began to approach, even at a distance, the noble instruments of the present day, and the latter of these two items indicate that the instrument here was of such pretensions as to require the engagement of a skilled organist.

1479 Item, the day of burying of Sir John Wra, for iiij torches, iiij tapers, and the pitt ... ... xivs.
Item, the day of burying of Dr. Alyne, for his pytte in the church ... ... vjs. viijd.

1478 Item, for a pulpytte in the church-yard against the preaching of Dr. Penkey ... ... ijs. viijd.

In this year the receipts include a gift by the wife of John Taillour of a towell of diaper, eight yards in length.*

1479 Item, paid to Blandford for paving before St. Erasmus Auter and for lyme and sand ... ... is. vjd.
1480 Item, the day of burying a man that was slayne in St. James's field, ij tapers ... ...
1482 Item, the day of burying of Thomas, of the Convicte house ... ...
Paid for the amending of the cloaths before St. Margaret and St. Kateryn, and for cord ... ... is.
1483 Item, the day of Sir Thomas Cawey, for iiij tapers...
Item, the day of burying of Sir William Hopton, treasurer of the King's house, for his pytte in the church ... ... vjs. viijd.
1485 Item at the burying of Mr. Harcourt, for his pytte ... vjs. viijd.
Item, at the burying of John Barnard, gent., for iiij torches ... ...xiijs. ivd.
Item at the burying of John, the Queen's foole ...
Item, at the burying of Mr. Edmund Reynford, for iiij torches at his dirige ... ... iijs. ivd.

A short series of entries show that the 'churchyard cross,' as well as that within the church, was to be found at St. Margaret's: it had existed so long, in fact, as to require restoration :—

Paid for a grate brode ffrise stone to mende the fote of the crosse in the churche yerd ... ... iijs. ivd.

Paide for Asshelar Stones for the same crosse, and for laying and werkmanshipp ... ... vijs. ivd.

Paid for making a cross of tre to sett upon the said crosse of stone, and for the spere sponge and nails for the same ... ijs. ivd.

Paid to John Rede for peynting of the same cross of tre, sponge, spere and nailes ... ... iijs.

The steeple cross was also renewed at the same time.

Forty acres of the parish land at Kensington are shown to have produced a yearly rental of 13s. 8d.

1488 Item, at the burying of Daniel Richard Alyn, parson of Fulham, for iiij tapers ... ... is.
Item, for the burying of Master Taysdale, for the bell vjd.

* This entry suggests that the "houselling cloth," which was commonly used at the administration of the Holy Communion after the Reformation, might also have been used at mass before that time. It was customary in many churches in London, as well as in the country, for the communicants to kneel at long low tables covered with white linen, at the step of the chancel. In some few places, before the tables were brought into use, a long strip of linen was held before the communicants by two deacons; elsewhere the communion rails were covered with white hangings, while another variation of the custom was the use of a clean white napkin laid before each communicant. An item in these accounts for the year 1599, "Paid for a long diaper cloth to make two towels for the communicants, xijs. viijd.," points to some such usage at St. Margaret's, and, read in connection with that of 1478-80, suggests the possibility of its having been observed from that time onwards for upwards of a century. Mr. Vaux, quoting from Mr. Cousins' *Exeter, Fifty Years since* (Ed. 1878) inclines to the view that "the clean white pocket handkerchief, which old-fashioned people used to carry round their prayer books (the writer well remembers seeing instances in his boyhood at the Old Church, Chelsea) may well have been a survival of the old Housel Cloth." The inventories of church goods, jewels, &c., contain repeated references to "diaper cloths for towels for the communion," *e.g.*, the short extract given on p. 49. That for the year 1572, printed hereafter, schedules 33 "clothes of dyaper for the Comunyon Table," classifying them as "greate," "playne," "shorte" and "longe." They did not escape the eye of the observant Herrick (1630-1660), who thus refers to them in his *Noble Numbers* :—

To a Love-Feast we both invited are:
The figur'd Damask, or pure Diaper,
The sacred Towell, and the holy Eure
Are ready by, to make the Guests all pure.

1489 Item, at the burying of my Lady Ancresse, for the bell vjd.
Item, at the burying of John Randolfe, for iiij torches vjs. viijd.
Item, for my Lady Jakis, for her grave, in the feretre isle* ... ... vijs. ivd.
Item, at the burying of the parson of Arondell, for torches, tapers, etc ... ... vjs. viijd.

Among the admittances to the fraternity this year, was "Wynkyn Worde," fellow worker with and successor to Caxton.

Brotherhood Account.
Received for Dame Sybill Lakynn ... ... il.
Also for Mr. Harry Sharp, dean of St. Stephyn's ... ... il.
Also paid for two xvths granted to the King for the tenements in Kensington ... ... is. ixd.

1491 Item, at the burying of William Caxton, for iiij torches vjs. viijd.
Item, received of a box that was set before St. Gregory Pytey in Lent last past ... ... xs.
Item, received of the Churchwardens of St. Sepulcre's, for the Dragon ... ... ijs. viijd.
Item, paid for dressing of the Dragon, and for pack-thread ... ...

[The dragon here referred to was probably a representation of that mentioned in the legend of St. Margaret.—See Walcott's *Memorials of Westminster*, Ed. 1849, p. 114.]

Item, paid for a sleyne cloth of St. Gregory's Pety...
1494 Item, paid for wyne for Mr. Harry Abington at divers times ... ... ivd.
Item, at the burying of Sir Thomas Hungerford, Knight ... ...
Item, of the brotherhood of Rynsyvale, for the plow-gere ... ... ivs.
Item for amending the best suit of vestments for prest, dekyn and sub-dekyn, and for ribband for the same xvis.
1496 Item, aid to Mrs. Tebbys, for iij potels of tyre sent in a botelle to Mrs. More ... ... ijs.
Item, ij tapers for the man that died in Tothill Street going to St. Armilles Ward ... ... ijd.
Item, Henry Abyngdon, for the bell ... ... vjd.
1497 Item, Richard Castell, for his pitte in the Church ... vjs. viijd.
Item of Mr. Baugh, for licence of the ground for St. Erasmus ... ...
Item, in books called Legend, of the bequest of William Caxton ... ... xiijs.
1498 Item, for licence of St. Cornelius torches ... ... xd.
1500 Item, for the knell of Julian de Worde† with the great bell ... ... vjd.
Item, for licence for iiij torches of St. John ... ... viijd.
Item, for licence for iiij torches of Seynt Anne ... ivd.
Item, received of the gift of my Lord Edmund, the King's son, to the behove of the church-works ... vjs. viijd.
Item, received of my Lady Morland for a stone to lay upon her husband ... ... xiijs. ivd.
First received of a sanctuary-man for a quarter's rent of the first tenement that he holdeth, for Midsummer quarter, etc. ... ... viijs. ivd.
Item, paid for fetching ij tonne of stone over the water from Fauks Hall unto the Kynges Brydge... vjd.
Item, paid for a daye journey, for mendyne a flouer, and a windowe in the same rents ... ... viijd.

* A feretory was an ornamental bier or shrine.
† Probably a relative of Wynkyn de Worde, Caxton's partner. See the note against the year 1489.

1501 Item, for the knell of Sir James Morland with the bell vjd.
Item, for the knell of Owen Tudor with the bell ... vjd.
1503 Item, received of the Southeseyer for iv tapers ...
1504 To fader Yanne for the keeping of the whype for betyng the dogges oute of the chyrche ... xvjd.

[The dog-whipper was in many parishes, in former years, a regularly appointed servant of the church; and Mr. Vaux adduces instances in which such an officer was regularly on duty down to the middle of the present century. Bequests were made for the endowment of the office in numerous parishes in England and Wales. A statement was made in *Notes and Queries*, 2nd September, 1854, to the effect that the appointment of such functionaries had followed the establishment of the church as far away as Shrewsbury, Maryland, U.S.A.]

1506 Also, for a certain quit-rent out of a little tenement in the Wolstaple, to the maire of the staple, at xxd. by yere ... ...
1506 For the rent of a tenement, called Wyllys, lying in Totehill Street, in the hands of Sir William Stoner, Knight, at lxvis. viiid. by yere ... .
Item, iiij printed books, ij of them the Lyfe of St. Kateryn, and other ij of the birth of our Lady, of the gift of the executors of Caxton ... ...
1508 First spent at the perusing and overlooking of the account of the last wardens accomptes, at the curate's house, for bread and drink ... ... ivd.
1510 Atte burying of Robert the Hermyt, iv torches ... ivd.
Atte burying of the costerdmonger for iv tapers ... ivd.

[This is an early instance of the use of the word, which was originally applied to vendors of costard apples, though its limitation had extended within a few years: see the entry against 1519. Johnson gives Burton, the author of *The Anatomy of Melancholy*, who was born in 1576, as his authority; but this entry was ninety years before Burton wrote.]

1515 Kensyngton.
Our Ladies Brethren } Sir William Ironmonger, parish prest there ...
Also of oblacions and offerings received upon the festfull days of our Blessed Lady ... ...

OF NEW BRETHREN, &C.

Also spent at communicacion had with Mr. Hall and other of my Lord Cardinal's counsell, for the right of the green before my Lord's place ... ...
Item of Johan of the Boyling Alley, for ij tapers ... ijd.
1516 Item received of the gift of Mrs. Morley by reason of ij silver cups weying xxvj ounces, and being sold by the said accountants at iijs. ivd. the ounce, with xvid. of overpluss, amounting to ivl. xis. ivd., whereof repaid to the same Mrs. Morley, at her desire, il. vis. viijd., and so remains of her plate gift ... ... iijl. ijs. viijd.
1519 Item, to the Keper of the Scala Celi in the Abby ... ... ivd.
1518 Item, given by the children of the May-game ... ... viiid.

This simple line transports the mind to some of the charming descriptions of May-day customs given in poetry and prose from Chaucer's time to the present day. It tells of Westminster surrounded by fields—St. James' fields, Tothill fields, and the fields on the west, afterwards called the Five fields—in which the groups of children would gather their flowers in the hedgerows to carry to the houses of the well-to-do, there to sing their May-day carols and salutations, to dance round their little flower-bedecked "Lady of the May," to appeal to the charity of those who witnessed

their pretty childish play, and to conclude their simple festivity by making such offerings as this entry indicates. Chaucer, and the translations from earlier writers, show the antiquity of such customs, but this is the earliest reference to it which has been noticed in these accounts. Brand's *Popular Antiquities*, ed. 1849; Stubbs' *Anatomie of Abuses*, 1585, Hone's *Table Book*, *Year Book*, and *Day Book*, and Chambers's *Book of Days*, among many others, refer to the local variations of the custom at some length, though it must be acknowledged that the frolicsome observance by some of the adult classes lacked the innocence the above simple line suggests.

1519 To the costerdmonger for Pears [See the note against 1510] xijd.

1521 Item, payd to Symond Symonds for mending of the glass windows and of the ymagery works, that were broken with the grete wynds before Christmas ... ... is. ivd.

THE WEIGHT OF THE BELLS.

1527 First, the first bell weith ... ... CCCCC lb.
Item, the second bell weith ... ... CCCCCCXI lb.
Item, the third bell weith ... ... DCCCCVI lb.
Item, the fourth bell weith ... ... MX lb.
Item, the fifth bell weith ... ... MCCCCCCXIII lb.
Sum of the weight of all the bellis ... MMMMDCCII lb.

1531 First, paid to Renagever, payntour, for paynting and gylding of the lx storys of St. Margarett's tabernacle iijl. vjs. viijd.

1532 Item, received for the knyll and peals of the buryal of Abbot Islype ... ... is. vjd.

1534 Item, paid for a surpless for the curate ... ... xs.
Item, paid for a surpless for John Moore, the clerk ... iijs.
Item, paid for a surpless for Thomas Adams, the clerk ... iijs.
Item, paid for a surpless for the sexton ... ... iijs.
Item, paid for the hire of Seynt Margarett's serkelett* xvjd.

1535 Item, paid for a new ladder of steps for the pulpit ... ijs.

1539 Item, paid for the half-part of the Bybell accordingly after the King's injunction ... ... ixs. ixd.

1540 Item, paid to Symon Symons, glasier, for making and setting up of divers arms in the Trinity Chapell within the parish of St. Margarett in Westminster aforesaid, by the advice and commandent of Mr. Lancaster, Herrolt-at-Arms ... ... xs.
Item paid to Mr. Chidley, lerned man, for his counsell, and drawing up a bill to the King's Highness for the Churchyard, and to his clerk for ingrosynge of the same vjs. ijd.
First, paid to Alice Lewis, a goldsmith's wife of London, for a serclett* to marry maydens in, the 26th day of Sept. ... ... iijl.

1541 Item, paid to Roger Weston, for taking down of our Ladies tabernacle at Rouncyval,† and for setting up thereof in the Trinity isle in St. Margaret of Westminster ... ... xiijs. ivd.

* This serklett (circlet), or, as it was also called, "pasche," "paische," and "paiste," is frequently mentioned in the inventories, some of which are printed as appendices. It was evidently a sort of coronet kept for the use of brides. It was worn in Chaucer's time, a hundred and forty years earlier, for in his description of the apparelling of Griseldis for her wedding, he has (Ed. Tyrwhitt, l. 8257) "A coroune on hire hed they han ydressed." The use of such a headdress was customary in Norway and Denmark, where a set of ornaments was kept in each parish for the temporary use of the bride. These ornaments included a coronal and girdle, so that the poorest woman in the land had the gratification of appearing for one day in her life in a guise she probably thought equal to that of a queen. The museum of national antiquities at Copenhagen contains a number of such sets of bridal decorations.

† Walcott, in his *Memorials of Westminster* (ed. 1849, p. 109), says, "As regard this fraternity, William Mareschal, Earl of Pembroke, having given several houses near Charing Cross to the Prior of Roncevalles (the death place of Roland the Brave and the gallant Paladins of Charlemagne), in the diocese of Pampeluna, in Navarre, in the reign of King Henry III., nearly on the site of the present Northumberland House, a hospital was founded by this foreign Priory, under the same name as his chief cell in England. It was suppressed in the time of King Henry V., but restored 15 Ed. IV. for a Fraternity. It consisted of a master, wardens, brethren and sisters, who continued until the

Rouncyval fraternity } Item paid for repairing the chapel wall at Rouncyval where the tabernacle stood, as by bill apperith ... iijs. iijd.

First received on Good Friday, for crepinge to the Cross the same yere* ... ... vd.

1540 First, paid to Mr. Dr. Kitchin, in reward for preaching on our Lady-day, a pyke, price ijs. ivd., a galland of wine, viijd. and his bote-hire, ivd.; sum in all ... ... iijs. ivd.

This accompt is allowed in the Exchequer Chamber, on Sunday, the 10th day of Oct., in the 32nd yere of the reign, etc. ... ...

1544 Also paid for ushers against the Dedication-day, which is always the first Sunday of October ... ... is. vd.

1545 First paid to Mr. Barnard, for the table of the Conception now standing on the high altar ... ... xvjl. xs.

1546 Also paid on Ascension-even, for bread, ale, beer, and wyne, for the prebendaries and quyer of the mynster after mass was done ... ... is. ijd.

1547 Also paid to the poor men that did bere the copies and other necessories to Knightsbridge, when that King Henry the Eight was brought to his burial to Winsor, and to the man that did ryng the bells ... ... iijs.

Also paid for a honest dish of meat, and for wyne, for the King's Visitours ... ... xijs. viijd.

Also paid to the purcyvaunte, when he brought the commission for the presentment of all the Brothered ... is.

[This appears to refer to the approaching dissolution of the Fraternity of St. Mary Rounceval. See foot-note on opposite page.]

1548 Also paid to Philip Lentall, for making clene of xi payer of harnessis, ix daggers, and viii bylls, price every harness is. ivd. ... ... xivs.

Also paid to xi men for werying of the same harnessis at the muster-day, to every man vjd. ... ... vs. vjd.

Also paid to the King's amner, when he would have sealed up the church-doors, at the departure of the King's Majesty the 2nd day of July, because the bells were not rong ... ... ijs. ivd.

Also paid for bread, ale, and wine, for the gentlemen and children of the King's Chapel, for their panes in helping of the divine service at the blessed communion on Our Lord's day in Lent ... ... ijs. xjd.

1549 Also paid to William Curlewe for mending of divers pews that were broken when Dr. Lattymer did preach ... is. vjd.

[Latymer was then Bishop of Worcester, and was appointed to preach the Lent Lectures before the King (Edward VI.), in the course of which he denounced the Lord High Admiral Seymour, to whose death warrant he was one of the signatories at this time.]

First paid for iv books of the service in the Church ... xvjs.

1550 Also the said accomptants do charge themselves for the receipt of the overplus of the silver that remained of $\frac{XX}{VIII}$ and x ounces, which was delivered to Robert Tayleboys, of London, goldsmith, for to make thereof

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suppression of monasteries. The site of the chapel was granted 3 Edw. VI. to Sir Thomas Cowarden." The same writer adds an interesting series of extracts from the accounts of the fraternity, which are preserved in the Vestry room of St. Margaret's. The close association of the hospital with St. Margaret's, is shown by the frequent references, prior to the Reformation, in the Churchwardens' accounts.

* In an article in which he observes that "the only theatres for the people were the churches, and the monks were the actors." Hone, in his *Ancient Mysteries Described*, gives a quaint sketch of this "extraordinary dramatic worship," as it was performed at Durham Cathedral. It is worthy of note that no such item is to be found in these accounts after the Reformation. The item taken from the accounts for 1551 seems to imply that the cross was sold in that year.

iv communion cups ij all gylt, and the other ij parcell gylt; whereof we have received ij cups all gylt weighing $\overset{x}{\text{iii}}$ and xviii ounces; also ij other parcel gylt wayeing lxij ounces iii quarters, etc. ... ...

1551 A cross, the overpluss thereof being sold after vs. viijd. the oz. did amount ... ...

1552 Also paid for a recreacion for the Quest the 12th of July, when they came to view the inventory of the church goods ... ... vjs. viijd.

Also paid to Mr. Curat and Nicholas Poole, for making the book of the church goods, to be presented to the King's commissioners, and for the pains they took about it, etc. ... ... xs.

Also paid to the Taylor, for making ij clothes meet for the communion table ... ... xd.

1553 Allso payde for bread and drynke, on ashewensday, to the ringers at the Victory and overthrowe of Wiat and his Adherentes ... ... viijd.

["On 22nd February, 1553-4, all the Kent men went to the Court at Whitehall with halters about their necks, two and two together, through London to Westmynster, and between the two Tilts the poor prisoners kneeled down in the mire; and there the Queen's Grace looked over the gate, and gave them all pardon, and they cried out 'God save Queen Mary.'"]

1554 Also paid to a painter for washing out of the Scripture of the high altar table ... ... is.

Also paid for a lantern to be borne before the Sacrament in visitacion ... ... ijs. xd.

Also paid for iij capons for the bishop's dinner at the reconciliation of the church [See page 34] ... ... vijs.

Also for half a veil ... ... vs. vjd.

Also for iij green geese ... ... ijs. ivd.

Also for a dozen of rabetts ... ... ijs. viijd.

Also for a dozen of pigions ... ... ijs. vjd.

Also for a surloyn of beef ... ... vjs. viijd.

Also for ij gallons of wine ... ... ijs.

Also paid for bread, wine, beer, and ale, for Mr. Deane, the prebendaries, and the quire, when they came in procession to our church ... ... iijs. viijd.

[This folio of the accounts is reproduced opposite page 34.]

1555 Item, paid to Low, fletcher, for fethering of iiij shaffe of arrowse and new trimming of the heads ... ... ivs.

Item, paid for spiced bread on the Ascension-even, and on the Ascension-day ... ... is.

[See also the item against the year 1546. The references are evidently to the Romish method of celebrating the Ascension after mass, the progress of the Reformation being suspended during Mary's reign. A quaint description of the processioning is given in Barnaby Googe's Translation of *Naorgeous*, p. 63. This is partly transcribed in Brand's *Popular Antiquities*, from which the following extract is taken:—

Then comes the day when Christ ascended to His Father's seate,
Which day they also celebrate with store of drink and meate.

. . . . . .

This done they wafers down doe caste, and, singing, cakes the while
With papers round amongst them put, the children to beguile.

. . . . . .

And thus this solemne holydaie and hye renownèd feast
And all their whole devotion here is ended with a ieast (jest).]

1556 Item, of the Yeorle of Sussex in reward ... ... iijs. ivd.

Item paid to Nycholas Clarke, for making thymag of St. Margaret ... ... xjs.

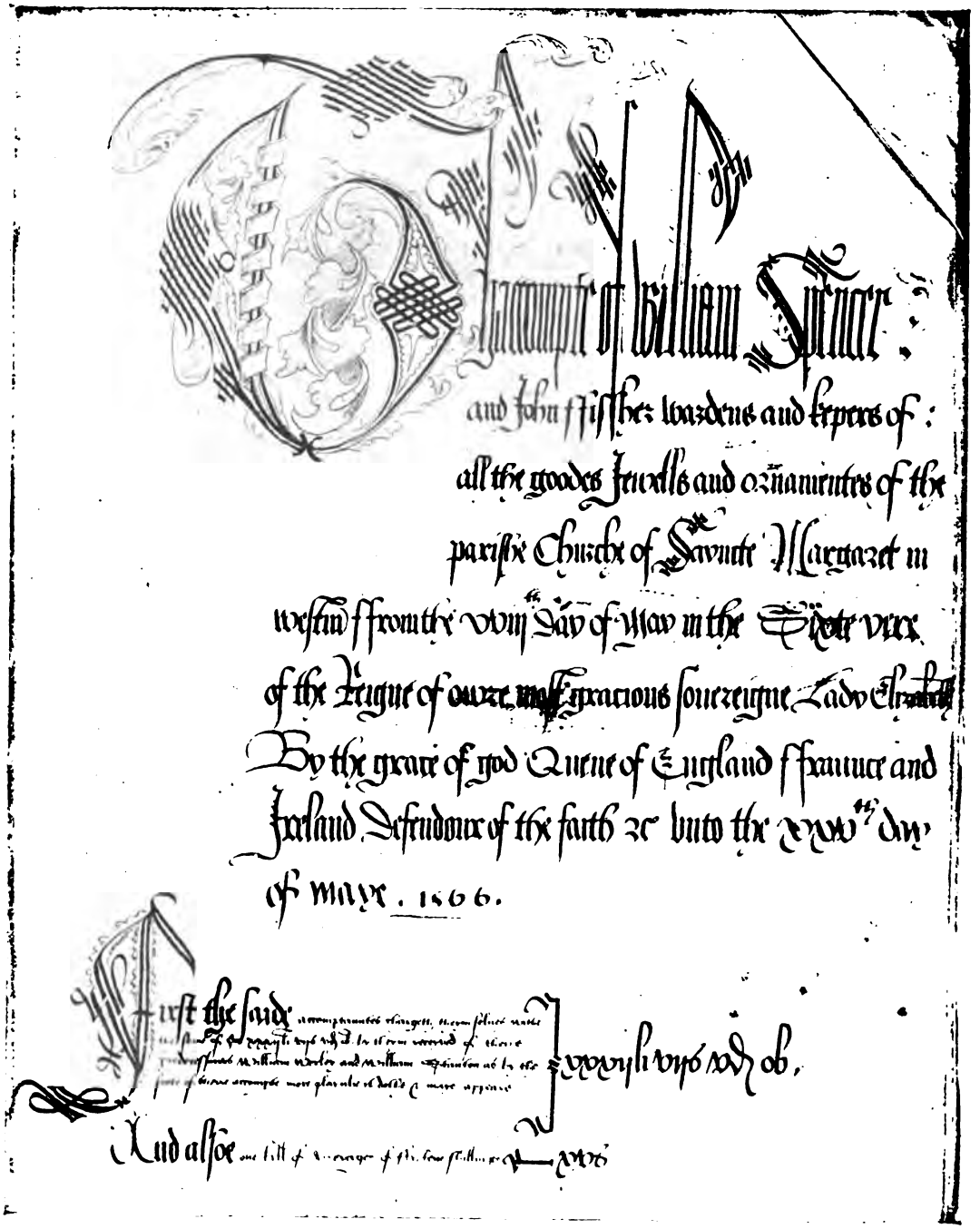
Thaccompte of Jo[illegible] Skynner

and John hunter wardens and kepers of all the
goodes Juelles and ornamentes of the parrishe
Churche of Saynct Margaret in Westm[illegible]
From the xxv[illegible] day of May in the Second yere of the
Reigne of owre most gracious soueraigne Lady Elizabethe
By the grace of god Quene of England f[illegible] and
Ireland defendour of the faythe &c unto the nynethe day
of may in the fourthe yere of her Ma[illegible] saide reigne.

Fyrst the sayde [illegible] lxxiij[illegible] xiv[illegible]

Heare followethe [illegible]

TITLE PAGE OF CHURCHWARDENS' ACCOUNTS, 1560-62.



Thaccompte of William Spencer
and John ffisshes wardens and kepers of
all the goodes Jewells and ornamentes of the
parishe Churche of Saynte Margaret in
westm ffrom the viij^th day of May in the Sixte yere
of the Reigne of owre most gracious souereigne Lady Elizabeth
By the grace of god Queene of England ffraunce and
Ireland Defendour of the faith &c unto the xxv^th day
of maye. 1566.

First the saide [illegible] xxxvj li vijs vd ob.

And alsoe [illegible] xxvs

TITLE PAGE OF CHURCHWARDENS' ACCOUNTS, 1564-66.

1558 Item for setting forth the five soldiers to Portismothe the last yere of Queen Mary ... ...il. xiijs ivd.

1559 First paid for a Byble and a Parafrawse ... ... xvjs.

Item for a Communion-book bound in parchemyne ... vjs.

Item to John Rial, for taking down the tabil on the high altar, and taking down the holy-water stock ... ... is.

Item for cleaving and sawing of the rood Mary and John ... ... is.

Item for bread, ale, and beer, on Tewisday in the Rogacion-weeke for the parishioners that went in procession ... ... is.

Item, first, the said accomptants asketh allowance for the costs and chargis of a supper, made to the new wardens and other the worshipfull of the parish, sitting and taking of this account ... ... ivl.

1560 Item, at the buryal of my Lady Jane Semer* ... ... xs.

1562 Hereafter ensueth an inventory made by the said wardens accomptants, of all the goods, jewels, and ornaments to the said church of St. Margarett appurtaining, Anno Domini 1562 ... ...

First one vestment of blew cloath of tissue, with the tunicles for the Deacon and Subdeacon ... ...

Item, one cope of crymson cloth of tissue and ij coorse copes of blew tissue ... ...

Item, one cope of purple cloth of tissue, one other cope of crymson velvet with skallop shells of silver and one other cope of crymson velvet with flowrs of gold ...

Item, one altar cloth of crymson velvet and gold, and two other altar clothes of blew and russet velvet with flowrs of gold ... ...

Item, two cushions of cloth of gold and crymson velvet, two cushions of green velvet with skochyns of needle work, two cushions of cloth of bawdkyn, and one little cushion with a tree of green silk ... ...

Item, vi herse cloths, and a cloth for the pulpit, of black and red bawdkyn, with flowers of gold ... ...

Item, viii old altar cloths of diaper, one great new altar cloth of diaper fine, and five plain ... .

Item, xvii towels and ij small towells [See foot-note, p. 41.]

Item, one challis with the paten all gilt, and ij great communion cups all gylt ... ...

Item, a paste (circlet) for brydes, set with pearl and stone

Item, a streamer of white sarcenet with a whight cross ...

Item, ten pair of allmen riveletts, and one harnis for a horseman, vj black billes, vi armyngehoodis, vij shefe of arrowse, and vj daggers ... ...

Item for the carriage away of certain soyl and dust of the churchyard against the Queen's Majesty comyng to the college the first day of the parliament ... ... is. xd.

1563 Item, for iv books of service for the Wednesdays, Fridays, and Sondays for the cessing of warrs ... ... is. ivd.

Item, to John Welch, for the killing and carrying away of dogs during the plague, and for the putting of them into the ground, and covering of the same ... ... iijs. ijd.

Item, to the painter of Totehill Street, for painting of certain blue crosses, to be fixed upon sundry houses infected ... ... vjd.

[Entries relating to "the plague" occur at frequent intervals henceforwards to 1665-6. These two items show that the destruction of dogs, and the marking

* Lady Jane Seymour, the mother of Edward VI., died at his birth, in 1537. See the first item of p. 33.

the street doors with crosses were among the precautions adopted upwards of a hundred years before the visitation of "the great plague."]

1567 Item, paid for the carriage of a polle from Scotland to the parish church ... ... ijd.
Item, paid for a drinking made at the Bishop's head when the sidemen gave their verdict ... ... iijs. vjd.
Item, paid for the setting of two soldiers into the North parts, and for their coates, slops, and other things, as it appeareth by a bill thereof ... ... iijl. xijs. xd.
1570 Item for ringing when the Queen's Majesty went to the Bursse* ... ... ivd.
1571 Item, paid for ringing for joy of the great victory that the Christians hath gotten of the Turk ... ... ijs. vjd.

[The victory appears to have been that at Lepanto, with combined fleets, under Don John of Austria.]

1572 Item, for iv new books of the Common Prayer set out by the Bishops ... ... vjd.
1575 Item, paid for netesfoot oil to liquor the belles ... ... ijd.
1576 Item, paid for botehier to London, and from London, taking a lease of St. Ann's chapell of Mr. Standley is.
Item, paid for making, writing, and drawing out of a lease of St. Ann's chapell, to lay wood in for the poor ... vs. viijd.
1579 Item, paid for scowering of the armour and shott against the musters in Totehill Fields ... ... il vjs.

[Some interesting particulars relating to musterings of various kinds at Tothill Fields are given in *Parochial Memorials of St. John the Evangelist, Westminster.* These two entries, compared with that of the year 1555, show that bows and arrows had been replaced by weapons charged with powder and shot, which explains the entry against the year 1587.]

Item, paid for powder for the soldiers upon the mustering-day ... ... xijs. ivd.
Item, paid to the solers, the ansyant-bearer,† and to him that played upon the drome ... ...il. vijs. ivd
1585 Item, paid to Robert Jones, for copeinge out Mr. Cornellis's will, and for parchment, for writing the poor people's names which were placed in Mr. Cornellis's Almshouses‡ ... ... ivs.
Item, paid for going the perambulacion, for fish, butter, cream, milk, conger, bread, and drink, and other necessaries ... ... ivs. viij½d
1586 Item, paid to William Piercy, painter, for painting the lector pulpet ... ... vjs. viijd.
Item paid for the dinner for the visitation for the churchwardens and the sidesmen kept at the Sarazione's head ivl. vs.
Item, paid for ringing at the beheading of the Queen of Scots ... ... is.
1587 Item, paid to Mr. Fisher, for making the butts in Totehill Fields ... ... il. iijs.
1588 Item, received of Mr. Marmaduke Servante, for the use of the poor to buy sea coals, being the gift of the Rt. Hon. the Lord Burleigh, lord high treasurer of England, the sum of ... ... xl.

* The Royal Exchange, which name was given to it in the Queen's presence, Jan. 23, 1570. See her "Progresses," Vol. II. under 1578, p. 108.

† Ensign-bearer: also written elsewhere at this time "ancient."

‡ Relates to the almshouses for poor women, founded by Cornelius Van Dun seven years previously. A mural monument to the founder is on the north side of St. Margaret's Church. The property was sold long since, and the produce of the investment, amounting to £132 per annum, is now applied to the home nursing of the sick poor by trained nurses.

Item, paid to the ringers the 8th of August, when the Queen's Majesty went from the St. James's to the Camp* ... ...

1592 Received of the Lord Cromwell and Mr. Freak, being carried into the countrey to be buryed ... ... ijl. is. viijd.

Item, paid for perfumes of francomsence, junyper, and packthrede ... ... is.

1593 Item, the broken tennor waied MDXXIIlb. weight; the new tennor that came in her place weid MCCC and a half ... ...

Item, the weight of the greatest bell ys MMC and a half

Item, the weit of the treble delivered was CCCC IIJ quarters and XVIIIlb. ... ...

Item, the weit of the fourth bell last brought in ys MDCCC and a half and XIVlb. weight; the weight of the fourth bell taken away, as is before expressed, is MCCC and a half ... ...

Item, weight of the second bell carried away DCCC IIJ quarters. The new bell brought in her place weid just DCCC and a half ... ...

1594 Item, paid to John Dore and George Jhonson, by consent of the Vestry, for casting a ditch between my Lady Dacres and Mr. Lyne, thereby to content her Ladyship, she being then determined to found an hospital in this parish ... ... il. viijs.

[The hospital so founded had become decayed beyond repair ten years ago, in consequence of which its site was sold and the proceeds invested in consols, from which forty pensions of £26 each per annum are now granted. A short sketch of the foundation will be found in the *Parochial Charities of Westminster*, 1890.]

1595 Item, paid for bread, drink, cheese, fish, cream, and other victuals, when the worshipfull of the parish, and many others of the poorest sort, went the perambulation to Kensington, in this hard and dere time of all things, as may appear by a bill of particulars ... ... vijl. xs.

Item, given to John Crevenne, alias ffote, a poor scoller born in this parish, after a sermon by him made in this church, by consent of such of the Vestry as were present at that sermon ... ... i l.

1597 Item, for the charges of diet at Kensington for the perambulation of the parish, being a yere of great scarcity and dereness ... ... vjl. viijs. viijd.

1599 Item, paid for a long diaper table cloth to make two towels for the communicants [See the foot-note at p. 41.] ... ... xijs. viijd.

1605 Item, paid for ringing at the birth of the King's daughter the 9th of April ... ... ijs. vjd.

Item, paid for bread, drink, cheese, fish, cream, and other necessaries, when the worshipfull and others of the parish went the perambulation to Kensington ... ... xvl.

Item, paid the ringers for ringing at the time when the parliament house should have been blown up ... ... xs.

1606 Item, paid the ringing when the King of Denmark came to the Abby the 4th of August ... ... ijs. vjd.

1608 Item, bought a cloth of gold and a cushion for the communion table, and a cushion for the pulpit ... xxl.

1609 Item, paid to Wright, the carpenter, for six days' work... ixs.

1610 Item, paid for ringing when he was created Prince of Waels and for ringing when the fire-works† were made ... vs.

* At Tilbury, on the appearance of the Spanish Armada.

† Walcott thought this to be the earliest reference to fireworks extant.

1611 Item, paid for five vines and one apricok tree, and for the planting of them before the Vestry window ... xs.
Item, paid for a pound of orris powder to put among the church linen ... ... xd.
Paid to Goodwfe Wells for salt to destroy the fleas in the Churchwardens' pew ... ... vjd.

1613 Paid to James Wheatley for scowring, amending, and making cleane the Armour belonging to this Church, as by his Bill maie appeare, vizt., one Horseman's Armour, nine Corsletts, thirteene Swordes, and twelve Daggers, and for twelve Calivers, one Muskett, fflashes and touch-boxes ... ... xxjs. viijd.

1615 Item, paid to the glasier for xxx foot of new glass, at vd. the foot, which was for two windows that have been heretofore stopped up ... ... xijs. vjd.

1617 Item, paid for twenty yards of diaper towelling for the desks [See the foot-note at p. 41.] ... ... il. iijs. ivd.

HOUSE OF CORRECTION.

[A notice of the foundation of this "correction house," which was built and at first maintained jointly by the Justices and the Vestry, is given in *Local Government in Westminster* (1889) pp. 160-162. It gradually assumed the character of a common gaol, was several times enlarged, then rebuilt, and finally demolished in 1884-5. The site is now covered by the Pro-Cathedral, Thirleby-road, Ambrosden-avenue, and Ashley-gardens. Mayhew's *Great World of London* (1856), p. 353, describes the prison with considerable fulness, and gives several illustrations.

1622 Item, paid to Walter Hall, bricklayer, for bricks, tiles, etc., for and about the building and erecting of the correction house in Tuttle fields for this city, etc., being also for a house to set the poor of the parish on work there ... ... clvjl. ivs. id.
Item, paid to Thomas Hammond, carpenter, for timber, etc., for and about the said correction house, and for the mills and other necessarys ... ... lxxxiijl. xiijs.
Item, paid to locksmith, for iron-work of all sorts needfull in the new building of the said house, etc. ... ... xijl. viijs. ixd.
Item, paid to the joyner for wainscotting, and a table and formes, in and about the same house ... ivl. xijs. ijd.
Item, paid to the painter, for colouring in oil the great gate, and all the windows, doors, and door-cases, in the said house, etc. ... ... il. xijs.
Item, paid to the glasier for lxxxix foot of new glass for the said houses, and repairing the old windows, which were much decayed ... ... il. iijs. xd.
Item, paid to the mason, for putting hooks into the gate, and to a labourer to carry the chimney-stones thither ... ijs.
Item paid the labourers to fill up the ditches, and for ramming the foundations of the brick wall, and for drains to pass the water away, and for cleansing and enlarging the sewers ... ... iijl. vis.
Item, paid for twenty blocks to beat hemp on, iij plain blocks, and xxviii beetles, for the said house of correction ... ... vijl. vijs. vjd.
Item, for a green broad cloth carpet, and six cushions of the same, a pair of large creepers, fire-shovel and tongs for the court-house in the said house of correction ijl. vs. id.
Item, paid for precedents and orders taken and transcribed out of other houses of correction, in Middlesex and Surrey, and out of Ould Bridewell in London, and Sessions-house ... ... i l.

The accompte of Richarde
Gybbes and Roger Boseley wardens
and kepers of all the goodes Jewells and
Ornamentes of the parishe Chuzche of Sayncte
Margaret in westm ffrom the xxx^th daye of
Maye in the Eyght yere of the Reigne of our moste
gracious souereigne lady Elizabeth by the grace of god
Queue of England ffraunce and Ireland defendour of the
ffayth &c vnto the xxiij^th day of maye. 1568.
First the saide accomptaunte chargeth them selues with
the some of xx xvj^s vij^d by them receyved of theire predecessors
Willm Rosencer and John Fisher late chuche wardens as by the
forte of theire accompte more playnelie et doth and maye appeare
xxvj^li xvj^s iij^d

TITLE PAGE OF CHURCHWARDENS' ACCOUNTS, 1568.

The accompte of
John Bradshawe and
William Conham wardens
and kepers of all and singuler the goodes Jewells
ornaments and redye money of the parishe Churche
of saynte margaretes in westminster from the feirst of
June 1582 in the xxiiij^te yeare of the Reigne of our
souereigne ladye Quene Elizabeth Unto the xxv^th daye
of maye in the xxvj^te yeare of the Reigne of our moste
gracious souereigne lady Elizabeth 1584

Firste the

Title Page of Churchwardens' Accounts, 1584.

1624 Item, paid for two pieces of broad cloth for children's coats ... ...il. ijs.
Item, paid for two pieces of cotton ... ... ixl. xivs.
Item, paid for twenty flock beds and bolsters, and for twenty ruggs and twenty blankets ... ... xxvjl.
Item, paid for one hundred of muckenders, at ijd. apiece, and for tape ... ...xvijs. viijd.
Item, paid for one hundred and six ells and a quarter of canvas at xvd. the ell, to make shirts for the children vjl. xijs. xd.
Item, paid for making of an hundred shirts at ijd. the piece ... ... xvjs. viijd.
Item, paid for a hundred and fifteen ells and half of canvas to make sheets at xvd. the ell ... ... xiijl. ivs. ijd.
Item, to making forty-eight pair of sheets, at vjd. a pair il. ivs.
Item, paid for seven dozen and four double bands, at iijd. a band ... ... il. ijs.
Item, paid for two dozen of single bands, at iijd. a band... vjs.
Item, paid for twenty-four pair of shoes for the children il. ivs.
Item, paid for forty coyses, at ivd. a piece ... ... xiijs. ivd.
Item, paid for gartering for the children ... ... iijs. ixd.
Item, paid for four and forty coats for children ... ... il. ijs.
Item, paid for making of forty petticoats ... ... xs.

WORK ABOUT GREEN COAT HOSPITAL.

[This was on the west side of Cobourg Row. Having received a measure of the King's favour, it found ardent supporters in the Duchess of Somerset, Emery Hill, Dr. Busby, and Rev. James Palmer. The site was sold in 1877, when the present "Westminster City School," in Palace Street, grew out of the proceeds of the sale. The foundation is noticed in the *Parochial Charities of Westminster*, 1890.]

1624 Item, paid to Robert Bishop, bricklayer, more at several times for workmanship by him, and his men, in building and finishing the said hospital with bricklayers work, plaisterers work, and tilers work, as appeareth by his bills, and the particular book ... ... xivl. xviijs. xd.
Item, paid to John Middleton, carpenter, more for workmanship by him and his men, about the hospital, as appeareth, etc. ... ... xxivl. iijs. xd.
Item, paid to the smith, for iron works, casements, locks, keys, iron bars, and other work about the hospital, as appeareth, etc. ... ... vijl. xs.
Item, paid to the painters, for work done about the hospital, as appeareth, etc. ... ... vl. xivs. viijd.
Item, paid for a plank for a table, being xxxvij foot long, at xvjd. the foot ... ... ijli. ixs. ivd.
Item, paid for the sawing and carriage thereof ... ... vs.

1626 Item, to the graves of 1447 poor people this year ... il.
1627 Item, paid for bread and wine, when the Right Honourable the Commons House of Parliament (being 468 persons) received the communion in the parish church, 1626 ... ... vl. xvijs.
Item, given to Mr. Vincent Peris, curate by their appointment, for his pains in the administration of the Sacrament unto them ... ... vl.
Item, paid to Walter Hall, bricklayer, for making and building the new church-yard wall near Tutle Fields,* containing in the whole compass thereof threescore and two roods, at ijl. xiijs. ivd. the rodde, viz., for brick, lime, sand, and workmanship ... ... clxvl. vjs. viijd.

* This relates to the land surrounding the "New Chapel," on the site of which the present Christ Church was erected in 1842-3. The Churchyard was acquired and consecrated sixteen years before

Item, paid to George Butt, for making a ditch about the new church-yard wall, containing lij rods ½, at js. the rodd ... ... ijl. xijs. vjd.
Item, paid for twelve bundles of rushes to fit the church-yard for consecration ... ...
Item, paid for herbes and spices to make diet-drink for the (hospital) children in the spring ... ... vjs. xd
1628 Item, paid to George Edgelie, by consent of the Vestry, towards his charge to proceed master of arts ... ... vl.
Item, to Richard Goodwin, by consent of the Vestry, towards proceeding bachelor of arts ... ... ivl.
Item, to Mr. Hennam, the husband of William Bowyer's widow, for carrying snow and ice out of King Street after a great frost by consent of the Vestry ... ... vjl.
Item, receaved of divers persons the parishoners of this parish for their fines for swearing, and being drunk, and for breach of the Sabaoth, and being otherwise presented according to the penal laws, as by a particular of their names and several fines appeareth, which hath been employed to the use of the hospitall children, the some of iijl. ixs. ivd.
Item, to Richard Busby, by consent of the Vestry, towards enabling him to proceed bachelor of arts ... ... vl.

[The famous Dr. Busby, afterwards Head-Master of Westminster, who at one time could point to no less than sixteen bishops who had been educated at his school, and "who bred up the greatest number of learned scholars that ever adorned any age or nation." When he became prosperous he was found in the fore-front of every movement for the education of the children of the poor of the parish.]

1629 Item, to Augustine Morgan, a constable in the Great Sanctuary being fined twenty shillings for suffering vagrants to wander in the streets, to him of his said fine being a poor man ... ... xviijs.
Item, to a poor man that lost DCCl. at sea by Dunkerkers vjd.
1630 Item, to John Martin, having his Majesty's privy seal to begg relief towards his travel to Persia ... ... iijd.
1633 Item, of the Right Honourable Henry, Earl of Manchester, lord privie seale, the pardon of his lordship's fees for passing our licence in mortmaine for King Charles's hospital in Westminster, which his lordship, as the prime benefactor to that good worke, hath most freelie and nobly remitted unto us; in like manner hath Sir Sidney Montague, Knight, his lordship's brother, one of the Masters of the Requests, remitted to us his fees; and so likewise did Mr. William Noye, attorney general to his Majestie, not only restore to us twenty pounds, which we gave him for his pains therein, but of his owne bounty gave us more ten pounds ...
Item, disbursed and paid for fees to divers officers at the greate seale privie seale and signett, and for drawing the books, and to Mr. Attorney General, his servants, and other necessary charges, in passing his Majesty's grant of license in mortmaine for King Charles his hospitall Westminster, as by severall billes thereof appeareth xxxvl. is. iijd.

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the original church was finished, owing, as the entry against the year 1626 suggests, to the pressing need of more space for interments. At the beginning of the eighteenth century the burial ground was described as "the pleasantest churchyard all about London and Westminster"; but as it became surrounded by narrow streets of small houses it lost its distinction, and notwithstanding the curtailment of its dimensions by the formation of Victoria Street (1847-51) and the widening of "Chappell Street," the condition of the churchyard remained a disgrace long after the rebuilding of the new church, and well within the recollection of those who would still like to be called young. The erudite Walcott, in his *Memorials of Westminster*, ed. 1849, pp. 285 9, briefly describes some of the features of the original church and the present edifice. The former is stated to have been used as a stable for the chargers of the Commonwealth troopers, as a council room by Cromwell and his officers, and as a prison for the Scotch soldiers taken at the battle of Worcester, of whom 1200 are shown by the churchwardens' accounts for 1652 (*q.v.*) to have been buried in Tothill Fields, close by on the south. See the items under the year 1651 and 1652 at p. 61.

[This Hospital became merged in the "St. Margaret's Hospital," or Green Coat School, and is now incorporated with the Westminster City School, mentioned at the year 1624.]

Item, paid for our part of the charges towards th' obteyning of a corporation for this citie and liberties, wherein nevertheless we lost our endeavour ... ... vijl. xjs. xd.

1634 Item, for a pair of sheetes for Jane Clare, whea wee sent her to the Spittle at Knightsbridge ... ... iijs. vjd.

1637 Item, to Mrs. Stone, the wife of John Stone, for bad farthings which her husband had received when he was overseer of the poor, as part of the stock brought in by his predecessors* ... ...il. viis.

Item, to Mr. Anthony Cliffe, deputie clerk of the peace, for renewing the commission of sewers for this citie and liberties ... ...il. xs.

Item, to the clarke of the counsell, for the coppie of an order touching the parson's tythes of this parish ... xs.

Item, to Mr. John Glynne and Mr. Maynard for their advice concerning the parson's tythes of this parish iijl. xjs. vjd.

1638 To Mr. Thomas Falconbridge, by order of the Vestry, at four several payments, twoe hundred pounds towards the building of the new chapell in Tuttle-fields; which sum of two hundred pounds was disbursed by the said Mr. Thomas Falconbridge. ... ...

Item, to Mr. Winter, keeper of the hospital at Knightsbridge, for the keeping of the Three Innocents for one month ... ... xvjs.

Item, to William Lynes, for removing the stocks from the sheds in Tuttle ... ... xijs.

1640 For ringing on that day which the Triennial Parliament was agreed upon in the Howse of Parliament ... ... vs.

1641 Item, paid to Joane Parkinson and Mary Clarkson for making cleane the church and pews against the 7th day of September, 1641, when there was a thanksgiving for our unity with the Scotts ... ... is. vjd.

Item, given to the ringers that day ... ... vs.

1642 Item, paid for twoe pints of sack for the ministers that preached the fast-day, which was the 30th of March ... is.

Item, receipts of moneys collected towards the payment for the building of the courts of guard, making posts and chains, and other works for the safety of this town, summa ... ...11l.

Item, received out of the black chest at several tymes for the building of the new pest howses ... ...cc l.

1642 Item, Nov. 3, given to the officers of the Tower of London, and labourers that delivered the powder, bullett, and matche ... ... xivs.

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* The possibility of a person accumulating 1296 bad farthings will probably need but little explanation when the want which existed at the time of an authorised coinage as small change is called to mind. It is just possible, also, that those who resented the increasing compulsory levies regarded the parish treasury as a convenient receptacle for such spurious moneys as might have passed into their hands Although the farthing, or four-thing, had existed from the time of William the Conqueror, when it was literally the fourth part of a penny—a cross being deeply cut so that the penny could be broken in half or quarters—the few penny pieces which were cast by the Government were in silver, and were so small and thin as to cause considerable loss to traders. From this grew the private mintage of their own coins or tokens by innkeepers and other tradesmen, who exchanged each other's tokens as if they were small accommodation bills payable at sight. Attempts were made in the reign of Elizabeth and James I. to supersede this *pseudo moneta* by a legitimate copper currency; but the remedy was not resolutely taken in hand until the Restoration. During the reign of Charles I. and throughout the Commonwealth, the private 'coinage' became so general that nearly every tradesman struck his own tokens "for necessarie change" They were prohibited by royal proclamation in 1674, and were not again brought into use until the end of the last century, when several of the Municipal Corporations issued them in their own Boroughs as a temporary expedient.

1643 Item, paid for twoe paper books, that were provided for taking of the covenant ... ...

[On 25th September, 1642, the Solemn League and Covenant was taken in the Church by both Houses of Parliament, the Assembly of Divines, and the Scottish Commissioners. The troubled times of the following forty years may be gathered from a perusal of the entries, many of which furnish confirmation of the contemporary history.]

1644 Item, of Edward Tasker, by the hands of his daughter Aylett for the stuff and materialls of the court of guard erected upon his ground at the Horse-ferrie ... ... vl.

Item, for xxix pounds of fine brasse, at ivd. a pound, and xcvj pounds of coarse brasse, at iijd. a pound, taken off from sundrie toombe stones in the church ... il. xiijs. vjd.

Item, of Arthur Condall, in part of vl. for the screene and organ-loft ... ... ls.

Item, of Edward Stanthwaite, for having companie in his howse on a fast-day, xs., and for swearing, is. ... ... xjs.

[Many such receipts as these are credited in the contemporary overseers' accounts, the moneys beng employed by them in the relief of the poor.]

Item, for a quire of printed warrants for putting the statutes in execution concerning the Lord's Day, etc ... is. vjd.

Item, for a table with the Covenant to hang in the church iijs.

Item, for a dozen of ordinances for observing the Lord's Day ... ... ixd.

1645 Received of Captain White for the organ-pipes ... ... ivl.

Item, for seaven lanthorns to hang in the streets ... xviijs.

Item, for a dozen of candles to set in the lanthornes ... ixd.

Item, for the beadles to drink while they watched the chaines ... ... is.

Item, to Captain White for a bason to baptize withall... vjs.

Item, to the ringers for ringing the 5th of February, being a day of publick thanksgiving for Dartmouth, Hereford, and the West ... ...

1647 Item, paid for rosemarie and baies, that was stuck about the church at Christmas ... ... is. vjd.

Item, paid in fees unto Mr. Friend and Mr. Denham, twoe of the messengers unto the sergeant att armes, attending the Commons House of Parliament, when theis accomptants were committed for permitting ministers to preach upon Christmas-day, and for adorning the church ... ... iijl.

1648 Item, laid out in expenses, when (by order) were sent forth scouts to bring intelligence of the armies' approach towards the citie* ... ... xijs. vjd.

Item, paid to Nicholas Edlyn, for half a chaldron of coles and half a hundred of faggots, that by command were sent to a regiment of souldiers at Goringe howse ... xvijs. vjd.

Item, paid to William Newington, tallow-chandler, for one dozen of candles, sent to the same regiment at the same time, as etc.... ... ... vjs. vjd.

1649 Item, paid to Mr. Philip Greenwood, high constable, for half a year's assessment of the viijd. a weeke laid upon this parish towards the reliefe of maimed soldiers within the hundred of Osoulston, due at our Lady Day last 1649, as, etc. ... ... xvijs. ivd.

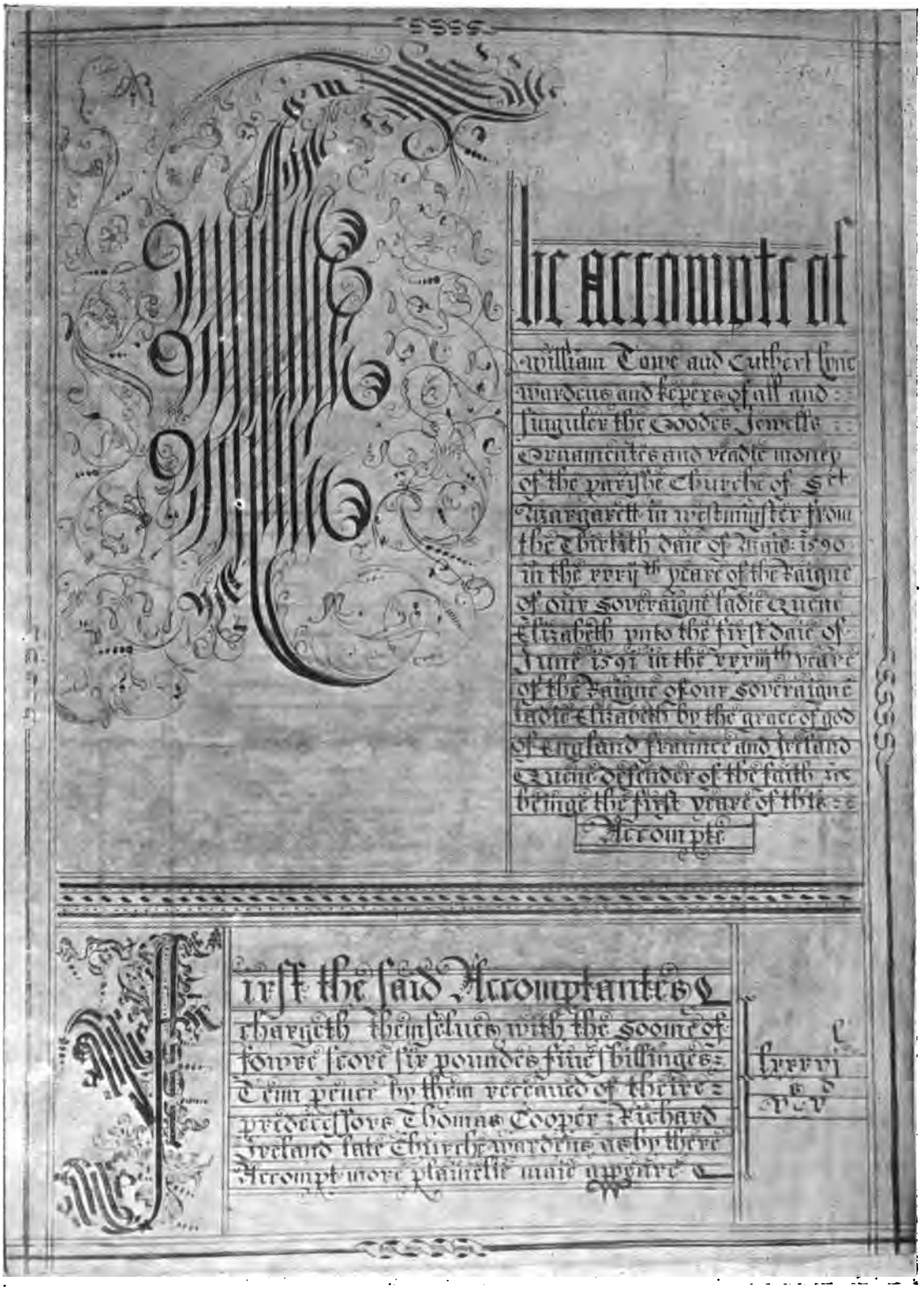
1650 Item, paid for herbs that were strewed in the windows of the Church and about the same, att two severall daies of humiliation ... ... iijs. xd.

* It was in this year that Milton wrote his sonnet "To the Lord General Cromwell," having just previously penned that "On the assault intended to the City."

The Accompte of Morris Pickeringe and John Priestewardens and kepers of all and singuler the goodes Jewells Ornamentes and readie money of the Parishe Churche of Saincte Margarets in Westminster from the Nyneteenth Daie of maij 1586 in the eighte and twentieth yeare of the Reigne of our Soueraigne Ladie Quene Elizabeth Unto the Seauen and twentieth day of Maij 1587 in the nine and twentieth yeare of hir Maiesty saide Reigne being the firste yeare of this Accompte. Nowe the Accompte of John Sauadge and the saide Morris Pickeringe wardens and kepers of all and singuler the goodes Jewells Ornamentes and readie money of the saide Parishe Churche of Sainte Margarette in Westminster aforesaide from the Seauen and twentieth daie of Maij 1587 in the nine and twentieth yeare of hir Maiesties said Reigne Unto the xviij^th daie of Maij 1588 in the Thirteth yeare of the reigne of our Soueraigne Ladie Elizabeth by the grace of God of Englande ffraunce and Ireland Quene Defendoure of the ffaithe etc. beinge the seconde yere of this Accompte.

Firste the laide Accomptauntes chargeth themselues with the Some of Threscore seauentene poundes nine shillinges Seauen pence by them Receiued of theire predecessors Richard ffferris and George Lee late Churchwardens as by their Accompte more plainelie it doth and may appere

Tytle Page of Churchwardens' Accounts, 1586.



The accompte of
William Towe and Cuthert Lyne
wardens and kepers of all and
singuler the Goodes Jewells
Ornamentes and readie money
of the parishe Churche of Sct
Margarett in westminster from
the Thirtith daie of Maie 1590
in the xxxij th yeare of the Raigne
of our soveraigne ladie Quene
Elizabeth unto the first daie of
June 1591 in the xxxiij th yeare
of the Raigne of our soveraigne
ladie Elizabeth by the grace of god
of England fraunce and Ireland
Quene defender of the faith &c
beinge the first yeare of this
Accompte

First the said Accomptantes
chargeth themselves with the soome of
fowre score six poundes fiue shillinges
Tenn pence by them receaued of theire
predecessors Thomas Cooper Richard
Ireland late Churchewardens as by there
Accompt more plainelie maie appeare

Title Page of Churchwardens' Accounts, 1590.

Item, paid for herbs that were strewed in the church upon a daie of thanksgiving ... ...

1651 Item, of Colonell Barkstead, being money by him received of one who sold unlicensed books ... ... il.

Item, of Colonell Barkstead, as money by him received of two persons that entertained company to tipple on the Sabbath-day ... ... xs.

Item, paid to the ringers, for ringing on the fourth of September, upon intelligence of the overthrow of the Scottish armey at Worcester ... ... vjs.

Item, paid to the ringers, for ringing on the four and twentieth day of October, being a day of thanksgiving for the victorie over the Scotts at Worcester ... ... viis.

Item, paid for hearbes and lawrell that were strewed in the church the same day ... ... viijs.

Item, paid unto severall labourers (whose names are inserted in these accomptants rough booke) for sweeping and cleansing the Sanctuary high-way, when the Parliament accompanied the corpse of general Ireton to the grave, and for filling the holes of the same high-way with rubbish to levell it ... ... il. xiijs. vjd.

Item, paid for a petition to the committee of prisoners, for a recompence for injurie done by the Scottish prisoners in the new church and church-yard* ... ... is.

1652 Item, of Adam Brown, joiner, for the posts and railes which stood before that porch of the Abbey, called by the name of Solomon's porch ... ... ijl.

Item, paid to Thomas Wright, for lxvij load of soyle laid on the graves in Tothill fields, wherein 1200 Scottish prisoners (taken at the fight at Worcester) were buried, and for other pains taken with his teeme of horse about mending the Sanctuary high-way, when general Ireton was buried, as, etc. ... ... il. xs.

1653 Item, paid to the ringers for ringing on the 23d daie of June, 1653, being a daie of thanksgiving ... ... vs.

Item, paid to the ringers for ringing on that day when the Lord Proctor. was installed ... ... iijs.

Item, paid to three porters for sweeping and cleansing the Sanctuary high-way for the ffunerall of Genll. Deane [successor to Gen. Monk]. ... ... iijs.

Item, paid to John Blewdon a poore souldier who came from aboard the shipp George to be cured of his wounds iijs.

1654 Item, paid to Francis Day, carpenter, for building the turrett upon the steeple, as by his bill and receipt vijl. xvs.

Item, paid to Richard Parrock, smith, for making the vane and other iron worke upon the church steeple as by bill ... ... ivl. xivs.

1656 Item, spent at severall times and places when the inhabitants of this parish and those of Paddington mett to reconcile the differences concerning the bounds ... ... il. xs.

1658 Item, of Thomas Hamond, Francis Daye, Thomas Chandler, and Stephen Harebottle, for 240 foot of ground in the old church-yard lett unto them to build scaffolds at the Lord Protector's funerall at the rate of is. the foot ... ... xijl.

Item, to Richard May, for informing of one that played at trap-ball on the Lord's day ... ... xviijs.

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* See the footnote to p. 56.

1660 Item, of his Majestie King Charles the Second, as his royal gift to the poore of this parish, att the interring of his brother the Duke of Glocester, and his sister the Princess Royal, the summe of fiftie pounds, viz. ... 1l.
Item, of Edward Rogers, sexton, for thirty foot of ground to build scaffolding on, at the coronation of the King's Majestie Charles the Second, at the rate of is. viijd. the foote ... ...ijl. xs.
Item, to the town waits, for playing on the day of the King's coronation ... ...ijl. xs.
Item, delivered to them in bread and wine ... ... vs. ijd.

[The "town waits" were an ancient Society enjoying privileges conferred upon them when Westminster was a mere village, by warrants issued to the members by the High Steward, long before the Court of Burgesses was created by Statute in 1585. The members were regularly sworn in like constables and, after the last-named date, received their licenses from the Court, by whom particular districts were assigned to different sections of the Society. A fee of £20 was paid to the Court annually. This entitled the waits to wear the Arms of Westminster, which the members had engraved on silver badges. The Society was in existence in 1820; but the circumstances under which they discontinued their operations can only be told, if at all, by the records of the Court of Burgesses.]

Item paid for three pints of canary at several times for Ministers ... ... iijs. iijd.
Ffor a pint of canary for the Minister ... . xijd.
Ffor a pint of canary and and roll for the Minister ... ... xiijd.
Spent upon a dynner for the Bishopp Almner's Gentlemen that brought in the blew cloath which his Maiestie trodd upon at the day of his coronation ... ... xvjs.
Paid for bringing back the engines from Whitehall, when the fire was there ... ... vjs.
1661 Item, to Henry Richards, for making of a scaffold in the engine-house, to sett the hoggshead of wine uppon, which rann at the King's coronation, as by his receipt appeareth ... ... vs.
Item, paid for a hoggshead of French wine which rann at the coronation of King Charles the Second ... ... viijl.
1663 Item, to Mr. Brown's clerke, for a copy of the act concerning Vestries† ... ... xs.
1664 Item, of the Bishop of Winchester (Dr. George Morley) to make good the damage done by coaches in the churchyard, and the rest to the poore ... ... vl.
Item, for wine one day for the lords and justices, being at the Vestry ... ... ijs.
Item, expended upon the inhabitants when wee went the perambulation ... ... xxiijl. is. vd.
1666 Item, expended in two dinners, and other necessarie charges on the inhabitants when wee went the perambulation within and without the parish ... xxviijl. vjs. ijd.
1668 Item, to Christopher Davison, Wyreman, for covering the vestry windows with wyre ... ... iijl. ivs.

[The use of arabic numerals by the accountants commences in this number.]

1671 Item, of Dr. Busby, to pay Mrs. Hooper for teaching the parish children three weeks, at 2s. 6d. the weeke ... 0 7 6
[See the last entry against the year 1628.]
1672 Item, received of Dr. Busby, for teaching the parish children, 15s. and 10s. and £1 and £1 10s. and £1 10s. 5 5 0
Item, expended in enterteyening of Mrs. Barnett, when thanks was returned for her charitable guift* to the church poore, per order 10 5 8

* This bequest, producing £64 per annum, is still administered by the Trustees of the Parochial Charities.
† This was the first Statute relating to Vestries (15 Car. II., cap. 5).

Item, to Mr. William Brewer, for making a maze in Tuttle fields 2 0 0

[Aubrey, the naturalist and antiquary (1626-1697), mentioned this maze as much frequented in his day in the summer time on fair afternoons.]

1675 Item, to Mr. Bernard Smith, for the charge of the organ newly erected in the parish church* 200 0 0

1680 Item, expended in going to Windsor with a petition to his Majestie to pray leave for the parish to make perambulation through his Majesty's park at St. James', to visit their parish bounds, which was granted 1 10 11

No.	Title or Nature of Record.			Year.	Shelf.
1	Churchwardens' Accounts, 17 sets bound in one volume, marked "A," viz.:—			1460 to 1510	77
	1460-1	1480-2	1496-8		
	1462-4	1482-4	1498-1500		
	(1464-6 missing)	1484-6	1500-2		
	1466-8	(1486-8 missing)	1502-4		
	(1468-74 missing)	1488-90	1504-6		
	1474-6	1490-2	(1506-8 missing)		
	(1476-8 missing)	(1492-4 missing)	1508-10		
	1478-80	1494-6			
2	Churchwardens' Accounts, 10 sets bound in one volume, marked "B," viz.:—			1510 to 1530	77
	1510-12	1518-20	1524-6		
	1512-14	1520-22	1526-8		
	1514-16	1522-4	1528-30		
	1516-18				
3	Churchwardens' Accounts, 10 sets bound in one volume, marked "C," viz.:—			1530 to 1550	77
	1530-2	1538-40	1544-6		
	1532-4	1540-2	1546-8		
	1534-6	1542-4	1548-50		
	1536-8				
4	Churchwardens' Accounts, 10 sets bound in one volume, marked "D," viz.:—			1550 to 1570	77
	1550-2 (on paper)	1558-60	1564-6		
	1552-4	1560-2	1566-8		
	1554-6	1562-4	1568-70		
	1556-8				

* He was better known as "Father Smith," and built the organs of Winchester, Eton, St. George's (Windsor). St. Paul's and Whitehall. His salary at St. Margaret's was £20 per annum.

No.	Title or Nature of Record.	Year.	Shelf.
5	Churchwardens' Accounts, 10 sets bound in one volume, marked "E," viz.:—	1570 to 1590	77
	1570-2 1578-80 1584-6		
	1572-4 1580-2 1586-8		
	1574-6 1582-4 1588-90		
	1576-8		
6	Churchwardens' Accounts, 10 sets bound in one volume, marked "F," viz.:—	1590 to 1610	77
	1590-2 1598-1600 1604-6		
	1592-4 1600-2 1606-8		
	1594-6 1602-4 1608-10		
	1596-8		
7	Churchwardens' Accounts	1610 to 1611	77
8	" "	*1612-3	

* In addition to the extracts given in the preceding pages, the following are of a class which from this time gradually disappear from the Churchwardens' Accounts and find their place in those of the Overseers. They point clearly to the fact that, although fifty years had elapsed since the levying of compulsory rates had commenced, the church funds continued to bear a considerable share of the expenses incurred in medical assistance, the care of lunatics, and the relief of the poor generally. The items for 1622 obviously relate to the maintenance of the local drainage system, and suggest that King-street, then a thoroughfare of some importance, still had an open sewer along it.

1612-1613 Payd out of these rents to 26 poor men and poor women quarterlie to each of them vs. in two years the sum of .. .. lij l.
Payd to twenty poor women which are called Mrs. English women quarterlie to each xxd. subscribed in two years .. .. .. xiij l. vjs. viijd.
Payd to Widowe Tedder from the 14th of March, 1612, to the 5th of June, 1614, being sixty five weekes at xxd. weekely, in toto .. .. iij l. vs.
Payd to David Price, a poore old man .. .. vs.
Payd to Elizabeth Normen, a poore creature which had broken her backe with a fall .. .. i l.
Payd to Jhon Phillips the 7th of January, 1613, to take William Ball to be his apprentice for the tearme of nine yeares the sum of .. .. iij l.
Payd for apparrell for William Ball .. .. xvijs. vjd.
Payd to the carpenter, bricklayer, &c., for tyles, lyme, timber and other stuffe to repaire the Pest-house .. .. iij l. viijs.
Payd to Valentyne the Bedle of Saint Martin's in the fields for keaping of Avelyn Carr before she was sent to Bethelem the some of .. .. vjs.
Payd for the keaping of Avelyn Carr at Bethelem, three monethes and eighteene dayes. the som of .. .. ij l. ivd.
Paid for eyght yards ffrese to make hir a gowne at nineteen pence the yard the som of .. .. xijs. viijd.
Payd for cotton and canvis, &c., for makeing her gown .. .. .. iijs. vjd.
Payd for a smocke, quaife, hoses, and shoues.. .. .. vjs. viijd.
Payd to a poore woman in Long Ditch for keaping of her four daies after she came from Bethelem .. .. iijs.
Payd to John Newman for keeping of her after shee came from Bethlem till shee went to service being four weekes at vs. the weeke in toto .. i l.
Paid for a safegard and a waistcoate .. .. xvs. vjd.
1615 For a new bower glasse for the Pulpitt .. .. ijs.
Ffor coloring the yron of the bower glasse to the Pulpitt .. .. .. xviijd.
1620-1 Paid Mr. Gillam for cutting of the left brest of Mary Davis and for healing it againe .. .. ij l.
Paid to John Hakes, Chirurgion, for setting Margarett Wells her legg which was broken .. .. xs.
Paid to Mr. Kellett for curing the legg of William Barram dwelling in Saies Alley .. .. i l.
Given to Mr. Thomas Akers towards his proceeding Mr. of Arts in Cambridge by consent of the whole Vestrie .. .. viij l.
Given to William Wake towards his proceeding Bachelor of Arts in the University of Cambridge by consent, &c... .. .. iv l.

No.	Title or Nature of Record.	Year.	Shelf.
9	Churchwardens' Accounts	1614-5	77
10	,, ,, ...	1616-7	
11	,, ,, ...	1618-9	
12	,, ,, ...	1620-1	
13	,, ,, ...	1622-3	
14	,, ,, ...	1624-5	
15	,, ,, ...	1626-7	
16	,, ,, ...	1628-9	
17	,, ,, ...	1630-1	
18	,, ,, ...	*1632-3	
19	,, ,, ...	1634-5	
20	,, ,, ...	1636-7	
21	,, ,, ...	1638-9	
22	,, ,, (Relief of poor visited with plague)	†1638 to 1640	
23	,, ,, ...	‡1640-1	
24	,, ,, ...	1642-3	
25	,, ,, ...	1644-5	
26	,, ,, ...	1646	78
27	,, ,, ...	1647	

1622 Paid to divers Laborers for worke done at the sewer by Clowson (sluice) and for the timber-tree at the grate, for links and candles, as appeareth by a bill, &c. .. .. iv l. xs.
Paid to Wm. Boyer for carrying of fortie seven loads of soyle at the Clowson .. .. i l. iijs. vjd.
Paid for watching the pipes tenne nights .. ..
Paid to Mr. Dodson for arching the common sewer in King Streete, as appeareth, &c. .. .. xl.
Paid for mending the pavement before the conduitt in King Streete .. vs.
1624 Paid for setting of Gillman's legge, a poore boye borne in this parish which was broken at the house of correcton .. .. viijs. vjd.
1626 For redeeming the courthouse carpett from pawne seaven shillings .. viis.

* In the extracts from the accounts of 1633 at pp. 56-7 are shown certain payments made in obtaining the King's grant of a hospital. The following memorandum appended to these accounts is of interest to those who concern themselves in the foundation and growth of the local institutions:—

THE BREVIAT OF KING CHARLES HIS GRAUNT OF LETTERS OF MORTMAIN FOR THE HOSPITALL IN TUTHIL FEILDS.

1.—The Children to be maintained with diet and clothing and to be instructed in manuall occupations.
2.—King Charles founded, erected and created the howse into an Hospitall for ever, and hath constituted perpetuall gouerners and hath maid them a body corporate and politick, and gave power to gouern the aforesaid Hospitall as allsoe the lands, tenements, goods, and chattells thereto belonging.
3.—The Gouerners of the aforesaid Hospitall are to have p'petuall succession.
4.—They shall be allwayes persons of Abilitye & capable by law to have, hold possess lands or tenements in fee simple or for life, or years, and have power to sel agin, let or get, and to plead and be impleaded in all courts.
5.—The Gouerners shall have a common seale and may alter it att their pleasure and the major part shall have power to make lawes and ordinances and to execute them.
6.—They shall be able to purtchesse lan is or tenements to the yearly value of £500, soe they be not held in knights service or capite.

† See also No. 291.

‡ It is curious to notice that, while the registers were frequently interspersed with memoranda on all sorts of extraordinary occurrences, the accounts were rarely so used. The former were in constant

No.	Title or Nature of Record.	Year.	Shelf.
28	Churchwardens' Accounts	1648	78
29	" "	1649	
30	" "	1650	
31	" "	1651	
32	" "	*1652	
33	" "	1653	
34	" "	1654	
35	" "	1655	
36	" "	1656	
37	" "	1657	
38	" "	1658	
39	" "	1659	
40	" "	1660	
41	" "	1661	
42	" "	1662	
43	" "	1663	

use, except during the Commonwealth, and therefore became a sort of journal of passing events, while the latter were fair copied at the close of the parochial year and were put aside as soon as they were audited and allowed. The following exception may be due to the suspension of registration :—

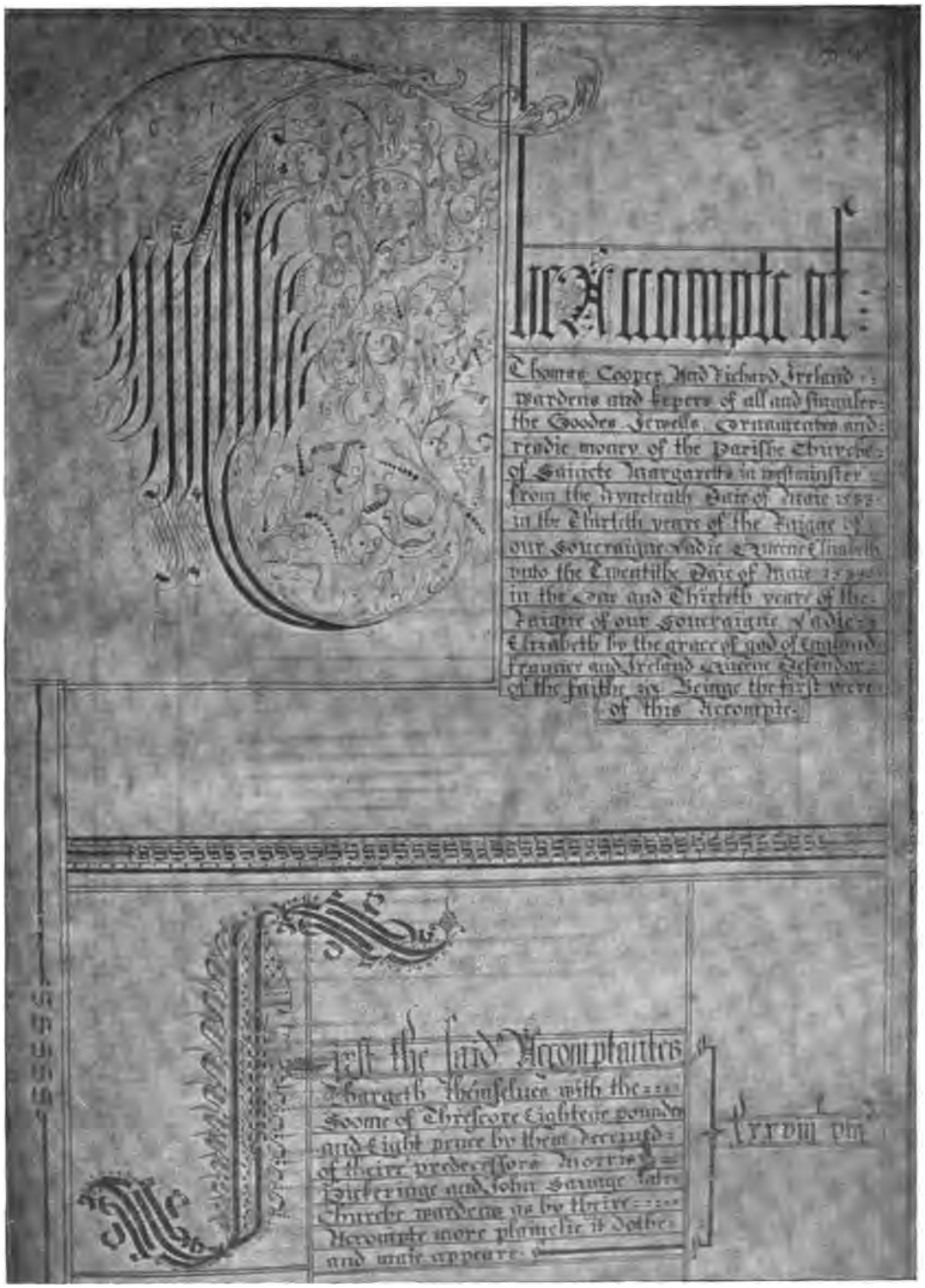
> 27th Feb., 1641. "MEMORAND. That the day and yeare above written, Mr. Stephen Marshall was chosen by ye p'ishioners of the p'ish of St. Margarett's, Westmr., to bee theire lecturer beeing recomended to them by the Honoble. House of Comons (Long Parliament) to take his place ye next Lord's day after ye feast of the Annunciacon next ensueing. This election was made in the presence of Mr. Dr. Wimberley the present lecturer of the said p'ish who voluntarily resigned his place and consented to the choice of Mr. Marshall."
>
> ROBERT PYE (Sir), EMERY HILL, JOH. HAMPTONN.
>
> (Signatures of 39 others.)

Walcott states that the order of the House was issued on the humble petition of the inhabitants of St. Margaret's. Several similar memoranda are entered in the Vestry minutes of the period.

* Besides the extracts from this year's accounts reprinted at p. 61, the following are among the interesting items :—

Paid to Mr. Garrett, Minister, for a serge gowne lyned with bayse and faced with velvett bought by him and to be worne in the Church As by his receipt appeareth..	xxvjs.
Paid to William King for trimming and repairing the hour Glasse (see the extracts from the accounts for 1615, on p. 64) as by his Receipt appeareth	xiiijs.
Paid to Robert Bromfield, Painter, for collouring and Gilding the hourglasse case and for other worke about the Vestry as by his Bill and Receipt appeareth	xjs.
Paid more to the said Mr. Kem for halfe pints of wine and rolls allowed the Ministers after they came out of the pulpitt	xxiijs.

The use of hour glasses on pulpits became common after the Reformation, when long sermons came much into fashion, and bore a contrast to the brevity of pulpit discourses previously. From the preaching of Luther onwards to the Puritan times the length of sermons increased until they frequently exceeded two hours. Some churches were provided with half-hour as well as hour glasses, and L'Estrange tells of a parish clerk who had sat patiently under a preacher till he was "three-quarters through his second glass," and the audience had gradually withdrawn, tired out. The clerk then arose at a convenient pause, and calmly requested the preacher, "when he had done," to close the church door and "push the key under it," as he and the few that remained were about to leave. The use of these glasses commenced as early as 1564, in which year the accounts of St. Katharine's Church, Aldgate, show that one was purchased. The above payment is for repairing, so that the glass was apparently that purchased in 1615, and referred to in the extracts from the year 1615 on p. 64. Hogarth shows one in his "Sleeping Congregation"; but though they were preserved until the last century in some of the country churches, they fell into disuse shortly after the Restoration.



The Accompte of
Thomas Cooper and Richard Ireland
wardens and kepers of all and singuler
the Goodes Jewells Ornaments and
readie money of the Parisse Churche
of Saincte Margarets in westminster
from the thyrteenth Daie of Maie 1588
in the Thirtieth yeare of the Raigne of
our Soueraigne Ladie Queene Elizabeth
vnto the Twentithe Daie of Maie 1589
in the One and Thirtieth yeare of the
Raigne of our Soueraigne Ladie
Elizabeth by the grace of god of England
Fraunce and Ireland Queene Defendor
of the faithe &c Beinge the first yeere
of this Accompte

Yet the said Accomptantes
chargeth themselues with the
Soome of Threescore Eightene poundes
and Eight pence by them receiued
of their predecessors Morris
Fletcringe and John Savage late
Churche wardens as by their
Accounte more playnelie it doth
and maie appeare

xviii li viii s

TITLE PAGE OF CHURCHWARDENS' ACCOUNTS, 1588-9.

The Accompte of William Goddard and George Waites wardens and keeps of all & singuler the Goodes Jewelles Ornamentes and ye readie money of the parishe Churche of Sainte Margarettes in Westminster from the xij^th day of May 1594 in the xxxvj^th yeare of the raigne of our Soueraigne Ladie Elizabeth by the grace of God Queene of England ffraunce and Ireland defendor of the faith &c vntill the firste day of June 1595 in the xxxvij^th yeare of her Maiesties raigne beinge the firste yeare of this Accompte.

Firste the said Accomptant doe charge themselues with the some of thirtie fyve poundes ninteene shillinges and nine pounce by them receyved of theire pdecessors Marmaduke Seruant and Thomas Cole late Churchwardens as by their Accompte more plainely may appeare.

xxxv^li xix^s ix^d

Sum^m pagine de xxxv^li xix^s ix^d

TITLE PAGE OF CHURCHWARDENS' ACCOUNTS, 1594-5.

No.	Title or Nature of Record.	Year.	Shelf.
44	Churchwardens' Accounts	*1664	78
45	„ „	1665	
46	„ „	1666	
47	„ „ (in relation to the plague; see also Nos. 291 and 292)†	1665-6	
48	„ „	1667	
49	„ „	1668	
50	„ „	1669	
51	„ „	1670	
52	„ „	1671	
53	„ „	1672	
54	„ „	1673	
55	„ „	1674	
56	„ „	1675	
57	„ „	1676	

* Some of the items in this volume, as indeed in many of the others, are too curious to be passed over, *e.g.*—

(1664) Among the receipts:—

Of Mr. Tucker, for Token Money [see pp. 28-9] .. .. iiij li.
Of the Bishop of Winchester to make good the damage done by coaches and ye rest to ye poore .. .. v li.
Of various persons rents of properties held from the parish, amounting for the year to .. .. cclxvj li. vs. iiijd.

Among the payments:—

For Wine one Day, for the Lds. and Justices being at ye Vestry .. .. ijs.
To redeeme a Shoemaker from goeing to Tangier his ffamily being likely to be chargeable to the parish .. .. xvs.
For a Sedan to carry Sir Wm. Whelern to ye Court .. .. iiijs.
To a chimney sweeper .. .. js.

This is an early mention of such an occupation being followed in England. Beckmann, quoting from Gazoni Piazze Universale, 1610, 4to, p. 364, concludes that chimneys, as we have them, were invented in Italy, and says that most of the 'climbing boys' in Paris and London were brought from the Hartz Mountains.

† The calf binding is dyed black. The title and last folios are given at pages 71 and 72. Notwithstanding the accounts given by De Foe and other historians, this volume furnishes materials for at least a chapter—far more than can be incorporated with the present catalogue. It contains the assessment made for defraying the expenses, from which the following list of streets and places in the parish has been extracted:—

King Street	Mil Banke Way	Greate Almonry Nor.
Bell Alley	Spade Alley	Love Lane
George Yard	Mill Banke	Greene's Alley
Bore's Head Yard	Horseferry Banke	Broa. Sanctuary
Antelop Alley	Woodstreete Sou.	Little Sanctuary
White's Alley	Bowling Alley We.	Greate Sanctuary
Gardners Lane	Garden Alley	Church Yard
Chequers Alley	Petr. Streete Sou.	Tuttle Streete
Bell Yard	Petr. Streete Nor.	Church Streete
Duffield's Alley	[illegible]	[illegible]
Wise's Alley	[illegible]	[illegible]
St. Stephens Alley	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	Bo[illegible]ete
Brewers Yard	Greate Almnory Sou.	Tuttle Side
New Pallace	Little Almnory	Knightsbridge
St. Margts. Lane	Deane's Yard	Kensington

No.	Title or Nature of Record.	Year.	Shelf.
58	Churchwardens' Accounts	1677	78
59	" "	1678	
60	" "	1679	
61	" "	1680	
62	" "	1681	

The majority of these have disappeared—some long since, some recently; others have been re-built and re-named, and some have been intersected by the formation of Victoria Street.

Collections at the Abbey, St. Margaret's Church and the New Chappel (now Christ Church) produced £401 19s. 8d.

Benevolences given at the Buryall of well-to-do persons for the Relief of the Poor Visited with the Plague amounted to £132 19s. 6d.

But of the £1,652 11s. 1½d. collected, no less than £1,117 8s. 11½d. were Benevolences of Noble and wealthy Persons. Among the principal contributors were:—

The Duchess of York
The Bishop of London
The Dean of Westminster (Dr. Dalben or Dolben)
The Duke of Albemarle (Gen. Monk)
The Solicitor General (Sir Heneage Ffinch)
The Archbishop of Canterbury
The Bishop of Bangor
Dr. Busby
The Earl of Craven
Mr. Nicholas Butler (King Street)
The Steward of Westminster (Mr. Dolben).

Other distinguished residents of the Parish at this time were:—

The Duke of Monmouth
The Earl of Manchester
The Earl of Lincoln
Lord Grandison
Lord Scudamore
Lady Brainford
Lady Butler
Lady Ffoster
Lady Slingsby
Sir John Cotton
Sir Edward Ffishe
Sir Henry Herbert
The Earl of Derby
The Earl of Tyrconnell
Lord Fitzwilliam
Lord Richardson
Lord Stafford
Lady Broughton
Lady Ffilmore
Lady Knightley
Lady Williams
Sir George Donning
Sir Wm. Greene
Sir George Hambleton
Sir Thomas Ingram (Chancellor of the Dutchy of Lancaster)
Sir Anthony Juby
Sir Hugh Pollard
Sir Robert Long
Sir James Thynne
Sir Cornelius Vermenden
Colonel Kingwell
Captain Francis Dorington
Dr. Ingram
Sir Wm. Playter
Sir Robert Pye
Sir John Talbott
Sir Roy Twisden
Colonel Ashburnham
Captain Cooke
Dr. Wilson
Mr. Emery Hill (Tothill St.)

Other remarkable persons (at least for their surnames) were designated Cypherwell, Dillidally, Wildbloode, Bissaker, Dandillo, Mutus and Wabshotte.

The progress of the Plague may be seen by a comparison of the weekly totals of expenditure. In the first two weeks (end of May and beginning of June, 1665) only 7s. 6d. and 7s. 4d. were required, but rapid strides were soon made. For the 15th week (Sept. 4) more than £92 was needed. In this week no fewer than 1619 of the "poor Visited" received relief. A single person was granted 1s., while two in family usually received 1s. 9d., three, 2s. 9d., four, 3s. 6d., &c. One poor man, David Jones, with nine in family, received 7s. 9d.

The Nurses were usually paid 5s. or 6s. a week, sometimes 10s.; the Warders, 5s. to 7s.; the Bearers, 10s. a week; and the Searchers, 2s. a "corps." Besides these there were payments to Grave-diggers, and to Dog-killers, with extras for powder and shotte; for Padlocks, Straw, Physick, Druggs, Shrouds, Candles, Carts, and sometimes, to support the officials in their gruesome task, for Drink. "The Minister that pray'd with the Visited" received 10s. The cleansing of Sewers cost much, and large grants for this purpose were voted by the Justices in Covent Garden. The Pest-houses had to be enlarged from time to time, new ones built, and a new Bone-house erected. A Cedan (Sedan-chair) for ye Visited cost £1 2s. 6d.; Bedding for the French Doctos., £3 15s.

For more than a year the Plague held its sway, and not until November, 1666, could the Churchwardens cease their weekly payments. Their accounts were audited by Emery Hill, Ffran. Dorington, Bryan Barmby, William Brewer, and allowed by His Majesty's Justices of the Peace, Edm. Godfrey, Craven (Earl of), and Edmond Waicupp.

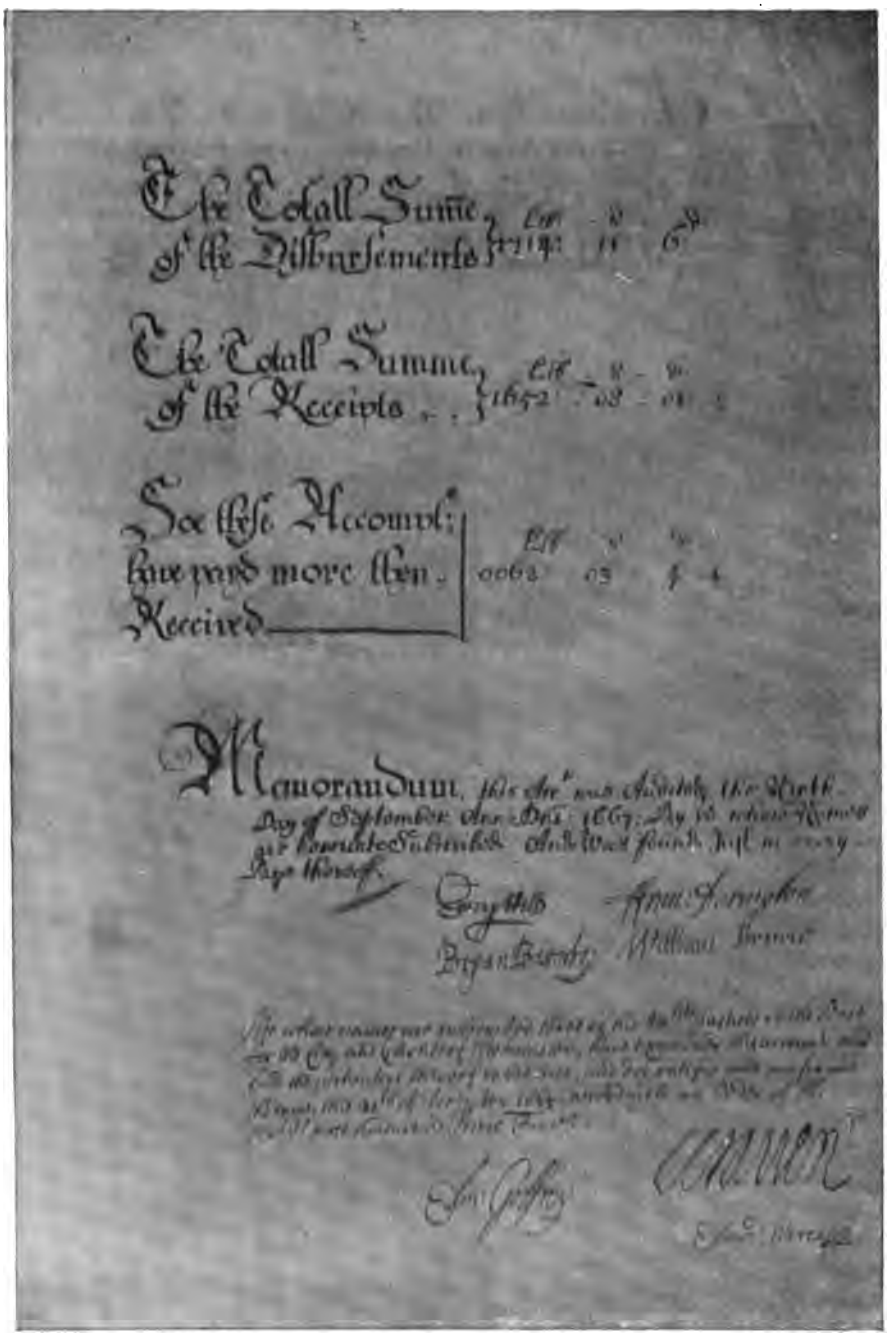
Specimens of the entries, a brief sketch of the visitation in Westminster, the Earl of Craven's description, and an account of the building of the Pest-houses will be found in *Parochial Memorials of St. John, Westminster.* See also Nos. 291 and 292 in catalogue.

Civitas Westmongsterij:
Comitatu Middsy

The Accounpt of Michael
Arnold & Nicholas Vohman
Churchwardens of ye Parish of St. Margte
in Westminster of all their Receipts and
Disbursements In Relation to ye Plague
within the sayd Parish. in the Yeares

1665 & 1666

TITLE PAGE OF THE CHURCHWARDENS' ACCOUNTS IN RELATION TO THE POOR VISITED OF THE PLAGUE, 1665-6.



The Totall Summe of the Disbursements

The Totall Summe of the Receipts

So these Accompt: have payd more then Received

Memorandum

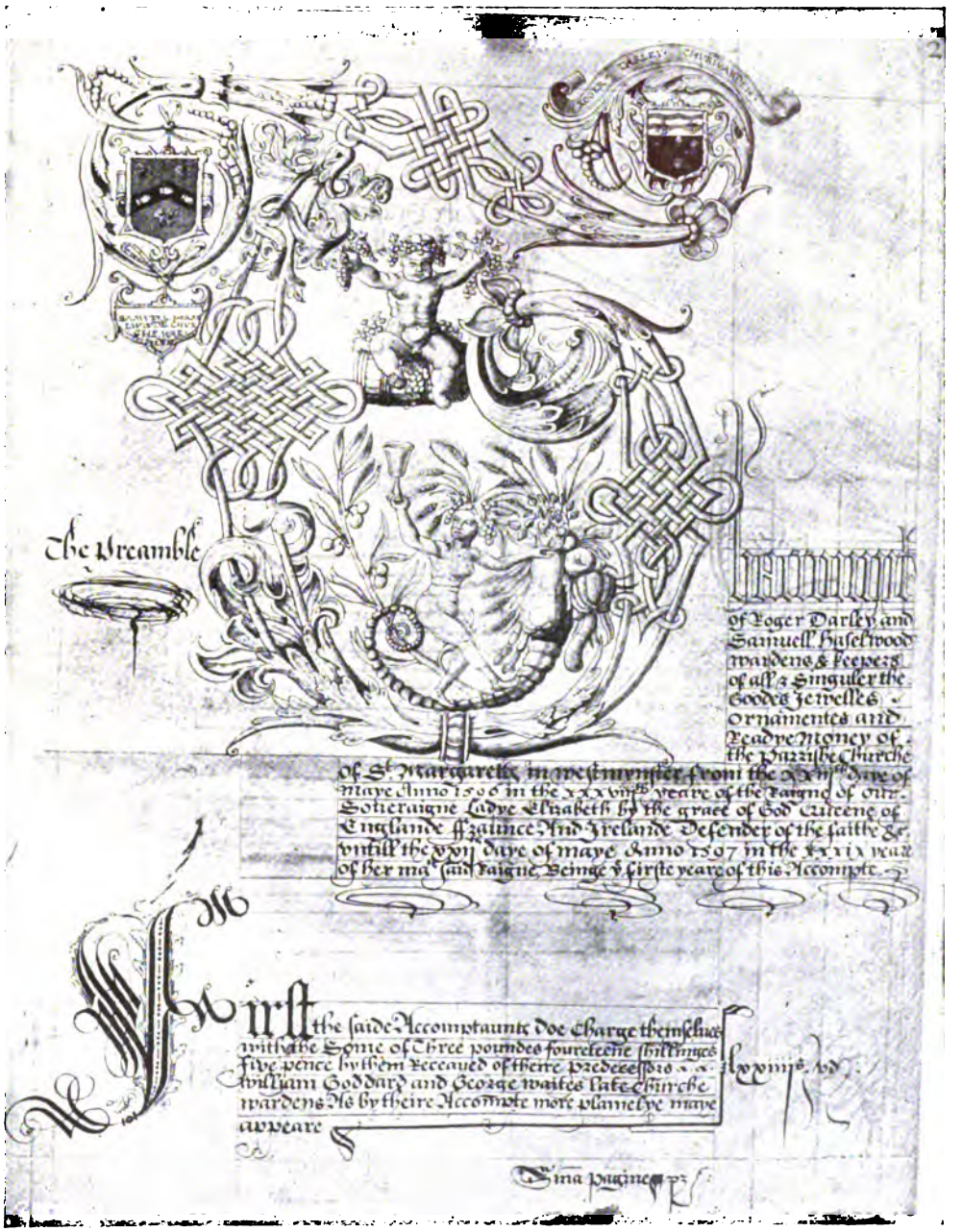
AUDITORS' CERTIFICATE OF THE ACCOUNTS OF THE GREAT PLAGUE, 1665-6, SIGNED BY THE CHURCHWARDENS AND OVERSEERS, AND ALLOWED BY THREE MAGISTRATES, OF WHOM ONE WAS LORD CRAVEN, WHOSE ACTIVE PART IN ALLEVIATING THE DISTRESS IS NOTICED BY SEVERAL WRITERS ON THE SUBJECT.

No.	Title or Nature of Record.	Year.	Shelf.
63	Churchwardens' Accounts	1682	79
64	" "	1683	
65	" "	1684	
66	" "	1685	
67	" "	1686	
	[The enthusiasm of the parishioners in the Protestant cause at this time is shown by the entry:—To the Right Rev. Father in God, Thos. Lord Bishop of Rochester, being the moneys collected on a Briefe for the French Protestants, as per receipt, £868 12s. 1d.]		
68	Churchwardens' Accounts	1687	
69	" "	*1688	
70	" "	1689	
71	" "	1690	
72	" "	1691	
73	" "	1692	
74	" "	1693	
75	" "	1694	
76	" "	1695	
77	" "	1696	
78	" "	1697	
79	" "	1698	
80	" "	1699	
81	" "	1700	
82	" "	1701	
83	" "	1702	
84	" "	1703	
85	" "	1704	
86	" "	1705	
87	" "	1706	
88	" "	†1707	

* It is remarkable that the office of "collectour" or "overseer" never seems to have become popular. From its creation, in the middle of the sixteenth century, to the time it became divested of its more onerous duties by the appointment of paid relieving officers in 1835, there was always more or less unwillingness to accept the office. A cursory glance over the receipts side of the accounts shows that on the average three persons a year from 1684 to 1716 preferred to pay fines of £12 apiece rather than serve. In 1699 there were six fined, in 1700 eleven, and 1715 seven. Thus in thirty-one years no less than £288 was paid in fines. In 1694 John Churchill refused the office. If we may believe him to be the John Churchill, at that time Earl of Marlborough, we can readily understand his declining the duties; but there was also the family of Churchills, of whom the satirist (then lately deceased) was a member, residing in the parish, one of his brothers being an apothecary in or near King-street, while others are stated by Mr. Gilfillan to have resided hereabouts until 1825.

† At this period and onwards into the present century are to be found numerous entries of fines paid for burial in linen. An Act was passed in 1667-8 for "the encouragement of the woollen manufacture of this Kingdom and prevention of the exportation of the moneys thereof for the buying and importing of linen"; but the penalty of £5 did not prevent the breach of its provisions.

No.	Title or Nature of Record.	Year.	Shelf
89	Churchwardens' Accounts	1708	79
90	" "	1709	
91	" "	1710	
92	" "	1711	
93	" "	1712	
94	" "	1713	
95	" "	1714	
96	" "	1715	
97	" "	1716	
98	" "	1717	
99	" "	1718	
100	" "	1719	80
101	" "	1720	
102	" "	1721	
103	" "	1722	
104	" "	1723	
105	" "	1724	
106	" "	1725	
107	" "	1726	
108	" "	1727	
109	" "	1728	
110	" "	1729	
111	" "	1730	
112	" "	1731	
113	" "	1732	
114	" "	1733	
115	" "	1734	
116	" "	1735	
117	" "	1736	
118	" "	1737	
119	" "	1738	
120	" "	1739	
121	" "	1740	
122	" "	1741	
123	" "	1742	
124	" "	1743	
125	" "	1744	



TITLE PAGE OF CHURCHWARDENS' ACCOUNTS, 1596-7, WITH THE ARMS OF THE BREWERS' COMPANY AND BAKERS' COMPANY, OF WHICH THE ACCOUNTANTS APPEAR RESPECTIVELY TO HAVE BEEN MEMBERS.

Title Page of Churchwardens' Accounts, 1598-9, with Arms of the Vintners' Company.

No.	Title or Nature of Record.	Year.	Shelf.
126	Churchwardens' Accounts	1745	80
127	" "	1746	
128	" "	1747	
129	" "	1748	

[At this period an extra fee was charged for interments aften ten o'clock, torchlight funerals being then "fashionable" among the well-to-do. Pope alludes to the custom in the lines—

"When Hopkins dies, a thousand lights attend
The wretch who, living, saved a candle's end."

The risk and inconvenience of mourners' lights being taken into churches led to the practice being prohibited. "Searchers" were employed by the Vestry to see that the body bore no marks of foul play, and "plumpers" were called in by the relatives "to bedizen the body," and to make what the ladies of the day used to call "a charming corpse." As many as thirty men were sometimes engaged to assist at one of these dismal pomps, and as much as half a hundredweight of candles, costing £7 or £8, would be used at one procession. On the other hand the bearers were forbidden to wear their silk bands at pauper funerals, and a cloth pall inscribed, "Buried at the expense of the parish," instead of the velvet pall, was used on such occasions. This stigma was happily discontinued in 1807.]

130	Churchwardens' Accounts	1749	
131	" "	1750	
132	" "	1751	
133	" "	1752	
134	" "	1753 to 1757	
135	" "	1757 to 1761	
136	" "	1761 to 1765	
137	" "	1765 to 1769	
138	" "	1769 to 1773	
139	" "	1773 to 1777	
140	" "	1777 to 1785	
141	" "	1785 to 1807	81
142	" "	1807 to 1827	
143	" "	1827 to 1847	

[There are no churchwardens' accounts for St. Margaret's deposited at the muniment room after this last-mentioned date. The churchwardens having become divested of the miscellaneous powers and duties beyond those relating to the affairs of the church, the accounts have, by this time, become devoid of special interest. They merely give the particulars of the church collections, and of the application of the moneys so received to the maintenance of the fabric, or to the funds of the schools or societies connected with the establishment.]

143A	Churchwardens' Accounts (St. John)*	1729 to 1733	
143B	" " "	1734 to 1751	
143C	" " "	1752 to 1773	

* This short series of accounts is complete, from the consecration of St. John's Church in 1728 to the end of 1868, since which time the accounts have not been deposited with the Vestry

No.	Title or Nature of Record.	Year.	Shelf.
143D	Churchwardens' Accounts (St. John)	1774 to 1793	81
143E	" " "	1793 to 1807	
143F	" " "	1807 to 1816	
143G	" " "	1817 to 1824	
143H	" " "	1841 to 1868	

[The burial ground of the parish having been closed by an Order in Council in 1853, the accounts for the last few years contain no entries relating to interments. They are, in fact, very uninteresting compared with those of the earlier years noticed in the preceding pages.]

OVERSEERS' ACCOUNTS.

Next in importance to the long series of records just passed, the Overseers' Accounts deserve a prominent place. Not only do they reflect something of the importance of the office, but, identified as that office was for upwards of three centuries with the relief of the poor, the condition of the people in bygone times can scarcely escape notice as the accounts are opened to view. And it is remarkable that while they tell of the poor law administration under circumstances widely different from those of to-day, they also tell of conditions which repeat themselves with remarkable similarity of detail. Few, indeed, of the secular institutions of the country can lay claim to such a unity of design and a continuity of action on its original lines.

It is not proposed, however, to encumber these pages with a history of the poor law or of the office of overseer. To do so would necessitate a review extending over five hundred years, for as early as 1388 (12 Richard II., cap. 7) an Act was passed for the repression of mendicancy. The earlier Acts which followed aimed no farther than this; and those passed in the reigns of Henry VII. and Henry VIII. were merely directed to the regulation of begging by the impotent poor and, at the same time, to increase the severity of the punishments for vagrants, "sturdy beggars" and those "whole and mighty in body." These evidences of "man's inhumanity to man" must be passed over, though it is impossible to avoid noticing that the profession of a beggar, being countenanced and provided for by the Statute law, carried with it no disgrace. This will probably have been inferred from the items in the Churchwardens' Accounts for the years 1621 (p. 64) and 1628 (p. 56) already extracted, and from the fact that the clergy, and the scholars of the two Universities, were frequently found soliciting alms, and were made the subjects of special enactments in an Act passed in 1531.

The overseer, under the style of "collector," was first called into existence by sec. xiv. of 27 Henry VIII., cap. 12 (1536). This Act, which was really the commencement of the present poor law system, prohibited the administration of relief otherwise than through "common gatherings," the foundation of the subsequent compulsory rate, and added whipping, ear-cropping, and death to the brutal punishments already in force. Numerous other measures were adopted in the reigns of Edward VI. and Philip and Mary; but it was under Elizabeth that a more humane system was inaugurated, though whipping and "stockynge" were not entirely abolished. This brief sketch is thus brought to 1561, the year in

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for custody. The volume No. 143B covers the period in which the church was undergoing reconstruction after the fire of 1742, and that numbered 143C comprises the time in which the satirist Churchill was lecturer and curate:—

> Who born for the universe, narrow'd his mind,
> And to party gave up what was meant for mankind.

A sketch of this talented but unfortunate man's career was given in the *Parochial Memorials of St. John the Evangelist*, pp. 101-111. His portrait and autograph are given on the opposite page. The accounts were carefully examined in 1890, and all the more interesting items noted, for the purposes of the *Memorials* just mentioned,

Charles Churchill Curator.

which the present series of accounts commence. The mention of this date is incompatible with the statements frequently made that the first Act for the compulsory relief of the poor dates from 43rd Elizabeth (1601), the fact being that the Act of that year is the earliest now remaining in force, and that inasmuch as the preceding Acts were repealed, they are overlooked. Here, however, are accounts of forty years earlier, from which some extracts have been made in order that the origin of the present system may be traced, and in order that a comparison may be made with the conditions under which the poor were relieved three centuries ago —a comparison which cannot fail to excite "that lively faculty of the human mind which is delighted with the effort it makes in turning back to past ages, in being conversant with manners and characters totally different from the present, in bringing back to view scenes that have long vanished, and in tracing the progress of human improvements from their embryo state to their comparative maturity."

From these extracts it will be easy to see that the system of to-day has been handed down for hundreds of years to be practised with remarkable similarity. True it would not be found convenient, as in 1561-2, to distinguish the parishioners by their trades and occupations; yet it will be seen that the relief to the poor was given weekly, that the "boarding out" of children recently adopted in many parishes is no new idea, that relief in kind has always been recognised, that outdoor medical relief is not of modern origin, that the removal and chargeability of lunatics was actively attended to by our forefathers, and that the law of settlement was then, as it is now, by no means free from difficulty and hardship. Delicacy forbids the reproduction of many of the entries relating to the enforcement of this branch of the law. The specimens given are from both sides—receipts and payments—so as to exhibit the sources of income as well as the channels of disbursement, though the former have, even at this early period, already assumed much of the bald character of the present-day rate-book.

A page of the earliest of the Overseers' Accounts in the series, showing some of the entries of the poor-rate for the second quarter of the year 1562, and the last page of the accounts for the half year ended at Midsummer, 1568, showing payments for "making the poore men's badges" and "the poor menes lycences," are reproduced on pages 83 and 84.

EXTRACTS FROM THE OVERSEERS' ACCOUNTS.

Receipts—

1561*	Item, Of Heywarde, the broderer	xijd.
	Item. Of Barnard, ye myllenor	xijd.
	Item. Of John Hayward, ye boucher	vjd.
	Item. Of Ellis, the clerke	vjd.
	Item. Of Jones of the horsehedd	vjd.

Payments—

1561	Item. To hunts wief for ye healinge of a scalde head...	iijs.
	Item. To Bull for teachinge a childe	viijd.
	Item. To Watson, ye chymeney sweeper	iiijd.

[This is a remarkably early mention of such an occupation. See the extract from the churchwardens' accounts for 1664, at p. 69.]

	Item. For apparell for the boy wch Io Roiall hath ...	iijs. viijd.
	Item. To Bargers widowe for the healinge of a childe wh. had a scalde hed	ijs. viijd.

Receipts—

1562	Item. Of Robt. Ardenals, barber	vjd.
	Item. Of Olyver, the waterman	vjd.

Payments—

1562	Item. To Alice Sentens, with a childe famisshed ...	ijs. viijd.
	Item. To Alice Newes, for keeping of a childe	ijs. ijd.

* From 1561 to 1572 the Receipts and Expenditure are entered quarterly. They amount for 1561 to £33 and £29 respectively. See note to the year 1590, page 91.

Item. To mother Compton ... ... ijs. ijd.
Item. Father Wardall ... ... ijs. ijd.
Item. To Watson being bedred ... ... xijd.
Item. To a powre woman being a suyte at the Lawe... ijd.
Item. To Alice Gason fr keping of a girl disseased ... xijd.
Item. Fr. the chardge of a winding sheete for a poure woman whiche died in Thambrey (The Ambrey) ... xijd.

[Burials without coffins were common in 1611; see Vestry Minutes of 24 April, 1611; and in 1694 (Vestry Minutes, 6th February) the Vestry forbade the provision of coffins for pauper interments.]

1562 Item. For bringing of straw from Mr. Woeleyes for the diseased girle aforesaid for making cleane of the house for her winding sheete and burieing of her ... ... xvd.
Item. For ij shertes for a poure boye which layd in ye streetes, and now put to a master ... ... ijs.
1565 Item. Paide to Thomas Payne at sundry tymes to by salve for his sore leg ... ... xxd.
Item. Paid to Joane Whelpdone towards her jorney into the countrey where she was borne and there to dwell and tarry ... ... xxd.
Item. Paid Richard Harrison, sent to the Spittell at Knightsbridge ... ... vs.

[Among the streets and places in this year's rate is "Pettie ffraunce," so that the theory attributing the derivation of the name to the settlement of refugees after the Revocation of the Edict of Nantes (1685) is disproved. The name probably took its origin from the settlement of French merchants trading at the Woolstaple.]

Receipts—

1566 Money Rec. for the poore at the tyme of Comunyon Receaved of the Churche Wardens of the money gathered at the comn. ... ... vs.

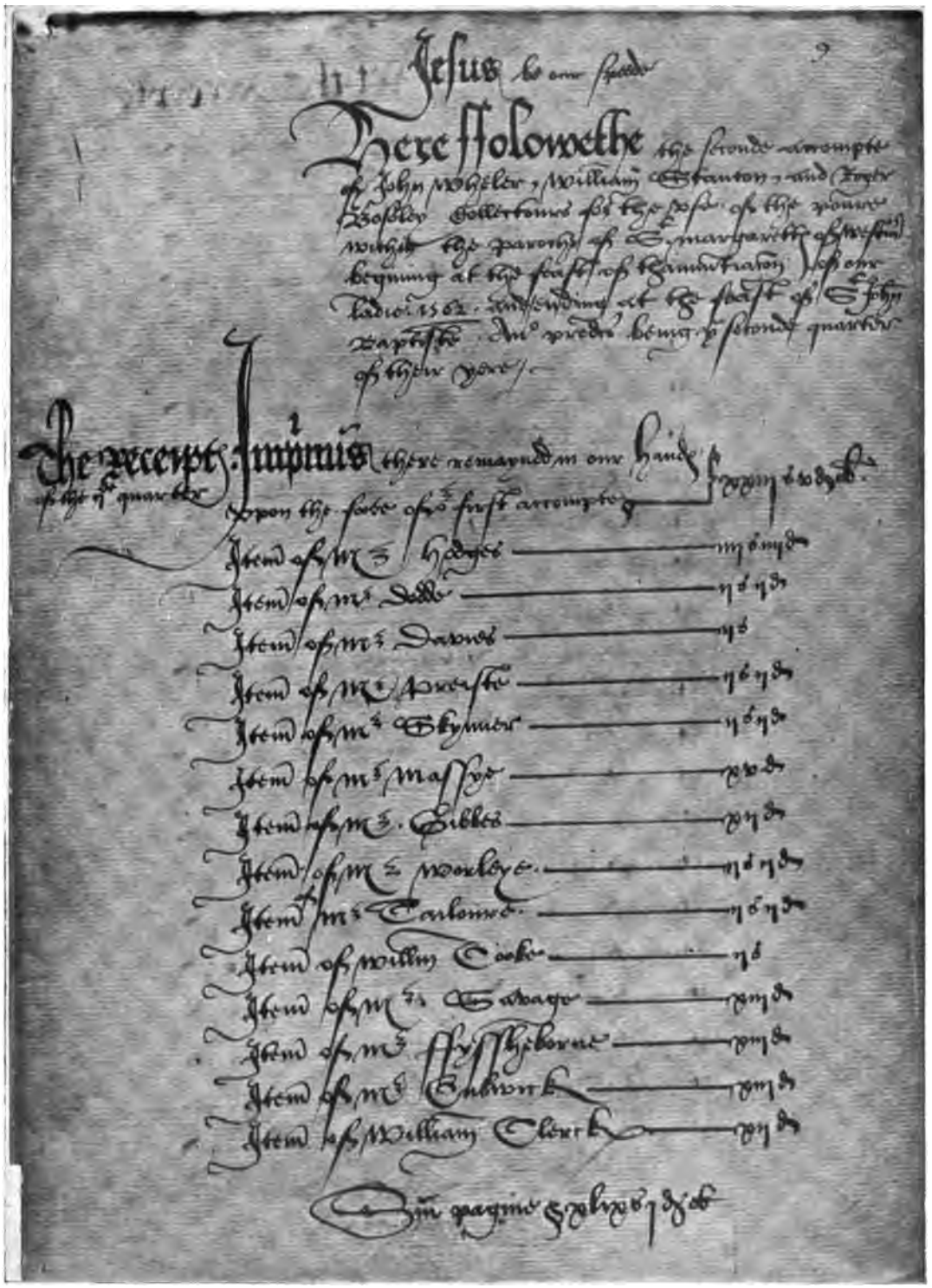
Payments—

Item. Paid to a poore mayden, towards the curing of her sore legge ... ... iiijd.
Item. Paid to Agnes Reignold for nursing of a ffatherles childe xxvj weeks at xiiijd. the weke ... ... xxxis.
Item. Paid to a poore woman who found the afore naymed childe ... ... iijd.
Alice Mayne ... ... ijs. viijd.
To the same Alice for nurssing of a pore orphane for xiij wekes at xij the weke ... ... xiijs.
For a winding shete and for the burial of a poore olde man dieing in the street ... ... ijs. vjd.
Payd for the clothe and the making of the poore mens badges ... ... xijd.
Payd to Mr. Denes clarke for making the poore menes lycences ... ... xijd.

[See the illustration on page 84, as marked on the right hand side. The licensing of beggars continued, notwithstanding the establishment of workhouses, for at least a hundred years, as shown by the following items in the churchwardens' disbursements for 1652-3:—

Paid to Mris White for fifteene ticketts of pewter for fifteene poore people to ask almes according to the order of the Justice of the Peace ... ... xxs.
Paid to Mr. Morris, Ironmonger for fifteene yards of brasse chaine for the said poor peoples ticketts ... ixs. vjd.]

Payd for to (two) quer of paper for the hole year ... xd.



Jesus be our speede

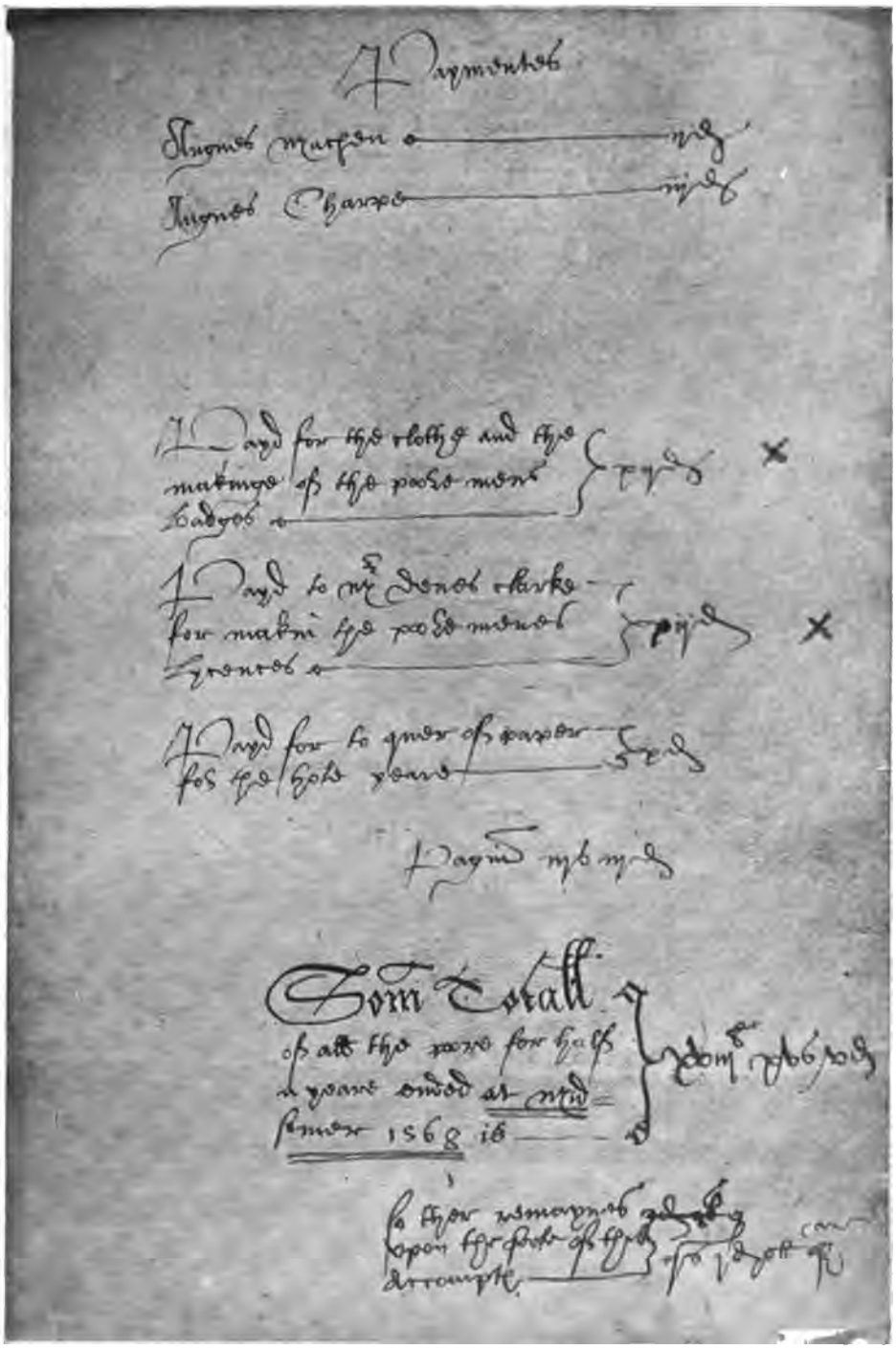
Here ffolowethe the seconde accompte of John Wheler, William Stanton, and Roger Bosley Collectours for the pse of the poure within the parochie of S. margarethe of Westm beginning at the feast of thanunciacion of our ladie 1562 and ending at the feast of S. John Baptiste Anno predicto being ye seconde quarter of their yere.

The receipt of the ij^de quarter. Imprimis there remayned in our hands upon the foote of our first accompte — xxxiij s v d ob

Item of Mr Hodges — iiij s iiij d
Item of Mr Dodde — ij s ij d
Item of Mr Davies — ij s
Item of Mr Preiste — ij s ij d
Item of Mr Skynner — ij s ij d
Item of Mr Massye — xv d
Item of Mr Gibbes — xij d
Item of Mr Worleye — ij s ij d
Item of Mr Tailoure — ij s ij d
Item of Willm Cooke — ij s
Item of Mr Savage — xiij d
Item of Mr Fyssheborne — xiij d
Item of Mr Cubwick — xiij d
Item of William Clerck — xij d

Summa pagine xxlix s j d ob

FIRST PAGE OF THE "POOR RATE," LADY DAY TO MIDSUMMER, 1562.



Paymentes

Augnes Machen ——— iiij d

Augnes Charpe ——— iiij d

Payd for the clothe and the makinge of the poore mens badges ——— xij d ×

Payd to mr Denes clarke for makin the poore menes licences ——— xij d ×

Payd for to quer of paper for the hole yeare ——— [illegible]

Paymt iiij s iiij d

Som Totall of all the poore for half a yeare ended at midsomer 1568 is ——— xxiiij s xvj d

So ther remaynes [illegible] upon the sole of this accompte ——— [illegible]

LAST PAGE OF COLLECTORS' OR OVERSEERS' ACCOUNTS, 1568.

The marks on the right hand side are opposite the payments or Badges and Licenses or those authorised to beg.

Payments—

1568 To John Standleye for helynge of Thomas Gybbonses legge ... ... iijs. iiijd.
Ffor helynge of Henry Morgan ... ... xijs. xd.

Receipts—

1569 Hanns Hunter a benevolence for a poor woman and her childe that leye in the market place helyinge her and for her childes nersinge ... ... xxijs. viijd.
Rec. of adromplaier (a drum player) in service tyme ... xijd.
Rec. of the hedborougher for a ffyne of the pewterer ... is.
Ffor carienge of ij boyes out of the towne ... ... vjd.
Received of a collyer for sellynge cooles on Candillmas Daye ... ... ijs. iijd.

[Candlemas Day was thus strictly observed in obedience to a Proclamation of 30 Henry VIII., a copy of which is in the archives of the Society of Antiquaries. The proclamation declares "that the bearynge of candels is done in the memorie of Christe, the spirituall lyghte, when Simeon dyd prophecye, as it is redde in the churche that daye." Fuller, in his *Church History*, p. 222, says that the observance was ordered by a decree of Convocation. The ceremonies, and church decorations in connection with them, are referred to by Herrick in his *Hesperides*.]

Item. of a bargeman sellynge wodde on the Saboath Daye ... ... xijd.
Item. Received of Mr. Lawton for his cartes goying on the saboath daie ... ... iijs. iiijd.

[These, with the entries in the years 1570, 1574, 1586, 1590, and at other times in this reign, indicate the strictness with which religious observances were enforced under Elizabeth.]

Received of the churche Wardens out of the poore folke cheste ... ... iij li. viijs.

Payments—

For caringe a deed corps to Church oute of the Palace... iiijd.

Receipts—

1570 Received more of the churche wardens for certayne stresses taken of those that do rittaile in service tyme iijs.
Recd. of Mr. Johnson for the castynge of one hundred lode of sand in totill ... ... xxd.
Fforfets for Sonday's servyce:—
John Henes for one quart pot ... ... ijd.
Roger Menilow for a doblet ... ... ijd.
Garat Cowper for one quart pot ... ... iiijd.
Recd. of goodman corne for one stone pott and certayne woden diches that was taken at St. Peters fayre ... vijd.
Of Mr. Cliffe for the passage of a carte throu the churche yarde ... ... xxd.

Payments—

Payde too goodwyffe frenche for the keepynge of a poure chylde xij weekes ... ... xijd.
Tow vij poure women yt. Rcd. the comunion ... ... xiiijd.

Receipts—

1571 Item, of John Dod for his lisense for kylling of flesh in lent ... ... vjs. viijd.
Item, of Mr. Harye dudle for his lisense for etynge of flesh ... ... vjs. viijd.

[See the note against the year 1618 at page 94.]

Reseved of the Jurye and Forfits.

Item. of Mr. Merifall for his lisens granted by the curat ... vjd.
Item. of Anthony persavall ... ... ijd.
Recd. of hary Redford mony that was taken In the fyld of serten roges pleaynge at quatys ... ... vjd.

Payments—

Payde to Rycharde fox for hys paynes takynge at divers tymes ... ... xijd.
For the noursynge of chyldren—
Item. payd to Edithe Coten for the kypynge a poure childe iiij monts at xd. the weyke ... ... viijs. iiijd.
Payde to mother Crone In the tyme of the infection of her housse at dyvers tymes ... ... iijs.
Payd to Sybyll Darley and to Margarett Mymse for ther paynes takyne in the visitynge of the same housse ... ... xvjd.
Item. for paper for to macke up our bouckes for thys hole yere ... ... xvjd.

Receipts—

1572 Ffirst recyved from the right honourable the Lord Burleighe L. Treaserer of England the xth day of Januarie, 1572, for the reliefe of the poore of St. Margarett of Westmr. vj score peces of beiffe by estimacion a stone a pece vj castes of breade and xliijs. iiijd. in money the which was gyven the same daye to fyve score of the poore aforesaid by us the collectors and master Baylise viij l. iijs. iiijd.
Item of the Lord Chiefe Justes of England the first daye of December, 1572 ... ... xiiis. iiijd.
Item of the Deane Westm. the daye of October 1572, to by flexe to sett the poore aworke ... ... xls.

[An Act was passed in 14 Eliz. (1572), cap. 5, for the provision by the justices of "convenient habitacons and abydinge places" for the poor; but the earliest mention of a workhouse in the Vestry Minutes is in 1664.]

Item of the said Deane to gyve unto the poore uppon Alhalland Daye ... ... vs.
Item of the Justices of the comon place by the handes of Mr. Deane at ij severall tymes to the use aforesaid xxxs.
Item recyved the xxiijrd daye of Februarie, 1572, of the right honorable the Erle of Derbye ... ... xxs.
Item of the Earle of Hertford the xvth of Februarie... xxs.
Item of the Lorde Dacres of the southe and my Lady his wife the xvij of Ffebruarie ... ... xls.
*Item. of the Lorde Crumwell at dyvers tymes ... iijs. vjd.
*Item of Mr. Thomas Crumwell at sundrie tymes ... viijs.
Item of Sr. Henrie Cates the same day ... ... xxd.
Recyved by the appoyntment of the Deane of Westm. every Sonday sithence the vijth daye of September, 1572, xl messes of meatt of the almes of the colledge to distribute the same amongest the aforesaid poore weekly that is to say for the xxiiij weekes endinge the xxijth daye of Ffebruarie, 1572, every messe valued in breade and meatt with jd. in money at iiijd. which doth amounte unto ... ... xvj li.

†*Payments*—

Item. gyven to Mr. Chaunter to bestowe uppon the prissoners of the gate house and Convicte house of Westm. xlviij messes of the almes of the Colledge valued at iiijd. the messe ... ... xvjs.

* These names occur frequently.
† From 1572 the Receipts and Payments are weekly.

Item gyven to Father Maddocks for keepinge and making cleane the trenc disshes wherein the alms was served xxiiij messes of meat valued at iiij the messe ... viijs.
Item. gyven to Robert Chapman by the said Chaunter for settinge the people in order at the almes and callinge of them, xxxiiij messes of meat valued at ... viijs.

Receipts—

1573 Item, recd. of my Lorde Graye the xijth of Marche ... xijd.
Item, of Mr. Ffraunces Newdigate the 28 of Aprill ... xs.
Item, of my Lorde Dudley the 28 Aprill ... ... iijs.
1574 First of the Byshopp of Rochester almoner to the quenes matie. for her graces alms at the tyme of the Maundye, 1574 ... ... iiij li.
John Gravener for a fyne sett uppon them for sellinge of stronge ale at ijd. the quart the xxij daye of Marche iijs.
Item, of a carter for carrieage with his carte on Sundaye being the xiiijth daye of Marche for a fyne ... ... viijd.
Item, of Willm. Hutton for fynnes of certayne psons not kepinge good rulle in ther housses in servyce tyme levied by the churchwardens and sydmen ... ... ijs. vjd.

Payments—

Item, paide for the carrynge oute of the towne towarde Wicombe a poore sicke mayde in a carte called Elizabeth Bolton ... ... xxd.
Item, paide in money for certeyne clothes and lynnen for a poore wenche called Katherine Welshe ... ... vs.

Receipts—

1575 Item Rec. of the righte worshippfull Mr. Henrie Knowles Esquier, the xxviijth daie of Aprill of the benevolence from the Knights and Burgesses of the parliament house ... ... xxxs.
Item, Rec. of the quens maties. Almes for the said yeere iij li. vijs.

Payments—

Ffirst recevede of John Savage being seassed by the said Justice according to the statute to paie weeklie iijd. for the use aforesaid for xxiiij weeks ... ... vjs.
To the prisoners of the Gate house and convict house vs.

Receipts—

1576 Item, rec. of Mr. Savadg wche was taken of one yt. sowld rotten mutton in ye market ... ... xijd

Payments—

Item for writt to arest Thexcutors of Mr. Quintine for A legacy by him gyven to the poore of the prishe of St. Margarete aforesaid ... ... xviijd.
For making an Acquittance to them for the receipt of the same money ... ... iijd.

Receipts—

1577 Received of the Gifte of Mrs. Newins, to be gyven in bred at the Burriall of Thomas Newins, hur husbande xls.
Item, more of John Johnes Baker in bred taken as forfett in ye markett and gyven to the poore ... ... xijd.

[This is one of many evidences of the survival from distant antiquity of the custom of distributing arval or arvil bread at funerals—a modification of the burial feasts referred to by Shakespeare (Hamlet, act 1, sc. 2), in Hornman's treatise *de Miraculis Mortuorum*, cap. 36, and Gough's *Sepulchral Monuments*.

And over and besyde xxj Tennements sett and Being in Pettie Ffraunce and St. Harman's (afterwards St. Hermyt's) Hill, in ye said prishe of St. Margarete's wherein are plased soe many poore people, rent ffree at the Costes and Charges of Cornelius Vandon, one of the yoeman of the quens matis. Chamber valued to be letten at xs. the yere eache of them. The whole amountith to x li. xs. yerely ... ... x li xs.

Payments—

To dyvers poore people in Bred at ye buriall of Thomas Newyns, Chandler ... ... xls.
To dyvers poore people in Bred taken forfett in ye markett by John Johnes Baker ... ... xijd.
To a man burned wh. gunpowther ... ... xijd.

[See the note against the year 1574, at p. 50.]

To a poore soldir sicke ... ... vjd.
To Swallow and Grene to convay a sicke childe out of the towne ... ... iiijd.

Receipts—

1578 Thes Persons ffollowinge are not asseassed by the justices aforesaide But have paide voluntarilye by the laboure of the said Collectors ... ...
Item, recd. of a Certen gentilman unknown wche came into the churche and wche gave money by adventure out of his purse the v daie of may ... ... iiijs. iiijd.
Receaved the xvj daie of January, of Mr. Deane of Westmr. and the Steuarde there xvj dusson and v pence of Bred founde by ye jury to want assisse and be unlawfull wche was gyven to dyvers poore people by us the collectors ... ... xvjs. vd.
Recd. of the Gifte of the Ladye Dacres the xxx of mche, 1578, the some of iiijli. wche was immediately Distributed amongest the poore and prissoners in Westmr. by one of my ladies gentlemen and we the Collectors iiijli.
Item, received the xxvjth of Aprill two dozen of cakes and bunnes taken from a baker and distributed presently in the churche amonges the pore ... ... ijs.
Recd. of the bequeste of Mr. Patenson the Somme of xlij li. or thereabouts wche was delivered by Mr. deane of Westmr. seled in a bagge to Mr. Ffisher to be by him kepte untill the same may be bestowed upon somme good bargaine as a lease or somme other suche like commodite wch may yeelde a yerely rente to the pore ... ... xlij li.

Payments—

Item. Gyven unto the poore in bred of gyft of Andrewe Holburne at the Burrall of Mr. Patenson's Dawter wch was all by Mr. Ffisher and Mr. Holburne as overseers the some of xls. ... ... xls.
Item, given at the Interement of the Right Noble Lady the Counties of Lynnes in money amongest the poore in Westmr. ... ... xv li.
Item gyven to dyvers and sundrye poore people of the prshe aforesaid the money offered by the mooreners at the Buriall of the Lady Lynnes ... ... vijs. viijd.
To bye fflaxe to sett the poore aworke ... ... x li.

[See the note against the year 1572, p. 86.]

Receipts—

1580 Item of Willm Arkes at jd. the weke for xviij wekes ... xviijd.
Item of Thomas Skiner at iijd. for xxiiij wekes ... vis.
Itm of Willm Stanton gent at iijd. fr xx wekes ... ... vs.
Itm of mr. John baptiste Castillian at iiijs. the quartr. for two quarters ... ... viijs.
Itm of morris Pickeringe,* at iij for xxv wekes ... vjs. iijd.
Received of my Ladye Dakers the vjth daye of Maye to bestowe among ye poore ... ... xxs.
Itm received of the Barrons of ye Exchequer the xix daye of Maye at ye hands of mr. Byllsbye ... ... vjs. viijd.
Itm received at the buriall of mr. Robert bowes at the handes of John Collier page of the Quenes chamber ye xix daye of maye ... ... xxs.

Payments—

1580 Richard Ffox the boathier to se whether my Lord Chamberlain were at Barmondsey ... ... ijd.
Item, paide for makinge of Indentures of Covenants between the Churchwardens and Thomas Hill who hath money delivered unto him and bynedeth hymselffe to serve the poore people of the parishe with wood of reasonable prices ... ... iijs. vjd.
Item paide unto Thomas Hillerye for one whole yeares rent of a storehouse being in the arllmery to laye in wood for the poore called St. Ans Chappell due unto our Sveryne Ladye ye Quene at the ffeast of St. Mvchael tharchangell last past ... ... xs.

Receipts—

1581 Itm, of John Westfield at xvjd. yerelie for the yere ... nl. (nil)
Item, of Robert Richmonte gent his arrerages in pt of xvd. ... ... xijd.
Item more of the said Sr. Willm. Cordell late mr. of ye rolles by thande of Mr. Deane of westm. to be distribut to the poure of St. margaretts St. martynes and to ye poure of ye stronde ... ... xls.
Item, of mr. Holbrow to be geven to iiij poure women at the buriall of his cousyn by special name ... xvjd.
Item, of Mrs. morecocke at the buriall of mr. morecocke one of the gent of the queenes maties. chappell her late husbande three score dozen of bredd wth. the vantage ... ... lxs.

Payments—

The names of suche vagarant men women and children as have ben sent awaye into divers parts of this realme were they were borne or last dwelt by the space of iij yere by sondrie warrants of the q. mats justices according to the statute viz., from constable to constable:—

Isabell Burde als Hall. 21 of Apriell, by carte To Lychefield.
Edith Morris, the 9th Maie, 1581, by warrant ... To Exeter.
Thomas Gille, a stowte rogue the 13th June ... To Nantwiche.

(And 38 others to various parts of England and Wales, as set out.)

Item, to Thomas Peete, a poure way faringe man travelinge out of Kent towarde Buckyngham where he was borne, by warrant of the justices ... ... viijd.

* Morris Pickeringe, who lived in the Almery, served the office of Collector during the year 1579-80. He was also a Member of the Court of Burgesses, by whom his name is still cherished. He presented a very valuable loving cup to the Court, which is passed round whenever the Members dine together, with the sentiment, "The City and Liberties of Westminster, and the Trade thereof, not forgetting Morris Pickering and Joan his wife."

Item, to the keeper of the hospitall of Bethlehem by composition for the takinge into his governmente Rice Evans of Westmr. being distraste out of his memorie and witts ... ... xiijs. iiijd.

Item, to fower pouer women for the conveying of Agnes ffoster travayling of childe in the streate unto the house of Margaret Roberts in the Sanctuarye viijd. to the said Margaret for lodgeing her during thre weeks iijs. more to the said Agnes at her dpture to Oxon where she was borne viijd. ... ... iiijs. viijd.

1584 Paied for the cleansing of the ditches at the townes eand of Mr. Conelis houses for the poore and for mending of the Bridge St. Armyneshill for the poore ... xs. vjd.

Receipts—

1586 Item for a fyne for John Brigges for going one the hollidaie ... ... ijs.

Payments –

Paied to John Creverne als ffoote toards his maintenaunce of his Learninge at the universitie at Oxenford and allowed him by the parishe xvjd. the weeke and paied to him for ij weekes ... ... ijs. viijd.

[See the second item for 1595, page 51.]

To John Steppes thelder for takinge of Jone Curtise to be his apprentice viijs. iiijd. as by Indenture appeareth

Receipts—

1588 Item of Mr. Jones hir mat. Tailor as the gift of hir matie. vij gownes of cloth and Sixe Smockes in the whole xiij for xiij poore prsons valued at ... ... iiij li.

Receved by thande of Mr. ffisher of the gifte of Mr. Rowe of London Draper xxx yardes of grise for vj gownes wch were made upp at the coste of the said Mr. ffisher and cost him xiiijs. the said gownes with there lynynge and making valued at ... ... iiij li. xiiijs.

Item, of Edmond Dubbledaye for rent of a garden due at xmas Called Tuthill Ground ... ... xxs.

Of him for another garden plott then due ... ... xviijd.

Item of William Cooke as a fyne for lendynge wine potts ... ... vis. viijd.

Receved of the Benevolence of the Knights and Burgesses of the neather house of pliament at the endinge of the same ... ... xls.

Of the Lordes and Nobles of the higher house of pliament as of there honorable benevolence ... ... xiiis. iiijd.

Payments—

To foxe to bye a pair of showes for an orphant ... ... iiijd.

Receipts—

1589 Receved of the Benevolence of the right honorable the lorde Burley Lord high Threasorer of England the some of xx li. whereof tenn poundes by his L. apointment to be distributed amongest of the libties of Westmr. at the funerall of the good ladye Burley his wife thother tenn pounds to remaine and be imploid yerely in sea Coles or other fuell to be sold to the poore of St. Margretts prishe aforesaid ... ... xx li.

Payments—

To ffoxe, Gilbert and Sadler, the three beadells for waitinge on the Lord Maior ... ... ijs. vjd.

Receipts—

1590* Of Richard Tenche the Town Clarke, for a ffyne for a Trespass comitted by John Warner, alias dictus the man in the moone ... ... viijs. vjd.

Item gotten of one that shall not be named by the industrie of us the said collectors ... ... xvjs.

Of the Vintner at the bell for a fine for sending his pottes abrode ... ... xxd.

Of a woman that sold cheryes in service tyme ... ... ijd.

Receivéd for an awarde betwene goodman Jones and Burnett the shoemaker ... ... ijs. viijd.

Over and besides the sōmme of fforty powndes geven by Jhon Ffeckenham somtyme abbot of Westmr. for a stocke to buy woode for the pore of Westminster and to sell twoo faggottes for a peny, and seven billetes for a peny, which somme of fforty powndes doth remayn in the hands of the churchwardens ... ... xl li.

Payments—

To John Redgrave, alias Browne, himselfe his wyfe and his chylde pityfully sicke ... ... xijd.

To John Abby, to buy som apparrell to putt forth his chylde upon condicion that the parish shall never be charged with the chylde ... ... ijs.

To John Seabourne for lodging a poore woman travayling of child in the stretes ... ... xijd.

To Turpyn for strawe to lodge a poore man in his hogstye ... ... iiijd.

No.	Title or Nature of Record.	Year.	Shelf
144	Overseers' (or Collectours') Accounts. Eighteen quarterly or half-yearly sections bound in one volume, marked "A," viz.:—	1561 to 1571	82

1561 (Xmas) to 1562 (Lady-day)
1562 (Lady-day) to 1562 (St. John Bap.)
„ (St. John Bap.) to 1562 (St. Michael)
„ (St. Michael) „ (Xmas)
„ (Xmas) to 1565 (St. John Bap.) missing.
1565 (St. John Bap.) to 1565 (St. Michael).
„ (St. Michael) „ (Xmas)
„ (Xmas) to 1566 (St. John Bap.)
1566 (St. John Bap.) to 1566 (Xmas)
„ (Xmas) to 1567 (St. John Bap.)
1567 (St. John Bap.) to 1567 (Xmas) missing
„ (Xmas) to 1568 (St. John Bap.)
1568 (St. John Bap.) to 1568 (Xmas)
„ (Xmas) to 1569 (St. John Bap.)
1569 (St. John Bap.) to 1569 (Xmas)
„ (Xmas) to 1570 (St. John Bap.)

* The Receipts for this year were £162 16s. 7½d.; the Expenditure, £147 15s. 2½d.

No.	Title or Nature of Record.	Year.	Shelf.
	1570 (7th July) to 1570 (15th October)		
	„ (15th October) to 1570 (December)		
	„ (25th December) to 1571 (Lady-day)		
	1571 (Lady-day) „ (24th June)		
	„ (24th June) to 1572 (St. Bartholomew) missing		
145	Overseers' (or Collectours') Accounts. Fourteen sections bound in one volume, marked "B," viz.:—	1572 to 1580	82
	1572 (St. Bartholomew) to 1573 (24th February)		
	1573 (24th February) „ (24th August, St. Bart.)		
	„ (24th August) to 1574 (22nd April) missing		
	1574 (22nd April) „ (26th September)		
	„ (26th September) to 1575 (17th April)		
	1575 (17th April) „ (25th September)		
	„ (25th September) to 1576 (23rd April)		
	1576 (24th April) „ (30th September)		
	„ (30th September) to 1577 (14th April)		
	1577 (21st April) „ (30th September)		
	, (30th September) to 1578 (6th April)		
	1578 (13th April) „ (28th September)		
	„ (28th September) to 1579 (26th April)		
	1579 (3rd May) „ (26th September)		
	„ (4th October) to 1580 (10th April)		
146	Overseers' (or Collectours') Accounts. Fourteen sections bound in one volume, marked "C," viz.:—	1580 to 1589	82
	1580 (10th April) to 1580 (October)		
	„ (October) to 1581 (2nd April)		
	1581 (2nd April) „ (24th September)		
	„ (25th September) to 1582 (April)		
	1582 (22nd April) „ (24th September)		
	„ (24th September) to 1583 (7th April)		
	1583 (20th April) „ (24th September)		
	„ (24th September) to 1584 (26th April)		
	1584 (26th April) to 1585 (25th April) missing		
	1585 (25th April) „ (26th September)		
	„ (26th September) to 1586 (April)		
	1586 (April) to 1587 (23rd April) missing		

No	Title or Nature of Record.	Year.	Shelf.
	1587 (23rd April) to 1857 (October)		
	„ (October) to 1588 (14th April)		
	1588 (14th April) to 1588 (October)		
	„ (8th October) to 1589 (1st April)		
147	Overseers' (or Collectours') Accounts. Ten sections bound in one volume, marked "D," viz. :—	1590 to 1597	82
	1589 (April) to 1590 (26th April) missing		
	1590 (26th April) to 1590 (1st October)		
	„ (1st October) to 1591 (20th April)		
	1591 (26th April) „ (1st October)		
	„ (1st October) 1592 (1st April)		
	1592 (1st April) „ (1st October)		
	„ (1st October) to 1593 (26th April)		
	1593 (26th April) to 1594 (16th April)		
	1594 (16th April) to 1595 (1st May)		
	1595 (1st May) to 1596 (April)		
	1596 (April) to 1597 (April)		
	1597 (April) to 1598 (Easter) missing		
148	Overseers' (or Collectours') Accounts, 1598 (Easter) to 1599 (Easter) ...		82
149	Overseers' Accounts. Eight sections bound in one volume, marked "E," viz. :—	1599 to 1608	82
	1599 (Easter) to 1600 (March) caption and title page missing		
	1600 (Easter) to 1601 (Easter)		
	1601 (Easter) to 1602 (Easter)		
	1602 (Easter) to 1603 (Easter)		
	1603 (Easter) to 1604 (Easter) caption and title page missing		
	1604 (Easter) to 1605 (Easter)		
	1605 (Easter) to 1606 (Easter) missing		
	1606 (Easter) to 1607 (Easter)		
	1607 (Easter) to 1608 (Easter)		
150	Overseers' Accounts. Eight sections bound in one volume, marked "F," viz. :—	1609 to 1617	82
	1608 to 1609 (missing)		
	1609 to 1610 (title page missing)	1613 to 1614	
	1610 to 1611	1614 to 1615	
	1611 to 1612	1615 to 1616	
	1612 to 1613	1616 to 1617	

No.	Title or Nature of Record.	Year.	Shelf.
151	Overseers' Accounts. Seven sections bound in one volume, marked "G," viz.:—	1617 to 1624	82

1617* to 1618† 1618* to 1619

[An entry in this year is worthy of a passing notice, as an early mention of the King's Scholars' Pond sewer, then an open stream dividing St. Margaret's from the outlying marsh lands of St. Martin-in-the-Fields, which extended to the junction with Chelsea near the present Suspension Bridge. It now forms the western boundary between this parish and St. George's, from Victoria to the river, and passes behind Carlisle-place, across the Vauxhall-bridge-road, and along the centre of Tachbrook-street to the river:—

Ffor the burying of the man that was drouned at the schollers pond ... ... ijs. vjd.]

1619 to 1620 1622 to 1623

1620‡ to 1621 1623 to 1624

1621 to 1622

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* Captions or title pages missing.

† The accounts for this period show how frequently dispensations were obtained from the statutory prohibitions of Edward VI. and the proclamations of Elizabeth against eating flesh in Lent. The receipts include many items from butchers for licenses to kill, and from parishioners for licenses to eat meat during that season, *e.g.*:—

Of the right worll. Mr. Dctr. Tounson, Deane of Westm., for license by him made to eate fflesshe in the Lent season videlicet.

Of the Right honorable Lord Pagett for a licence .. .. xxvjs. viijd.

Twenty-six similar receipts are entered in the same year (1618), including Sir Xpofer Perkins, Sir Randolph Crewe, the Lord Knevitt, the Lady Ffortescue, and the Lord Bishop of Lichfield, all resident in the parish. The fees, which were applied to the relief of the poor, appear to have been regulated by the social status of the licensees. Thus 'Lords' paid £1 6s. 8d., Knights and Ladies 13s. 4d., and commoners 6s. 8d.

Applications for these dispensations had to be accompanied by certificates from physicians, yet it is stated that the Primate refused more than he granted. The strictness of the observance of Lent, as encouraged by Queen Elizabeth's example, relaxed upon her death, which explains the frequency of the entries at the period now under notice. It was about this time that the versatile Herrick wrote of one (possibly of his congregation) who had caught his observant eye:—

"Bungie do's fast; looks pale; puts Sack-cloth on;
Not out of Conscience, or Religion;
Or that this yonker keeps so strict a Lent,
Fearing to break the King's Commandement:
But being poore, and knowing Flesh is deare,
He keeps not one, but many Lents i' th' yeare."
Hesperides.

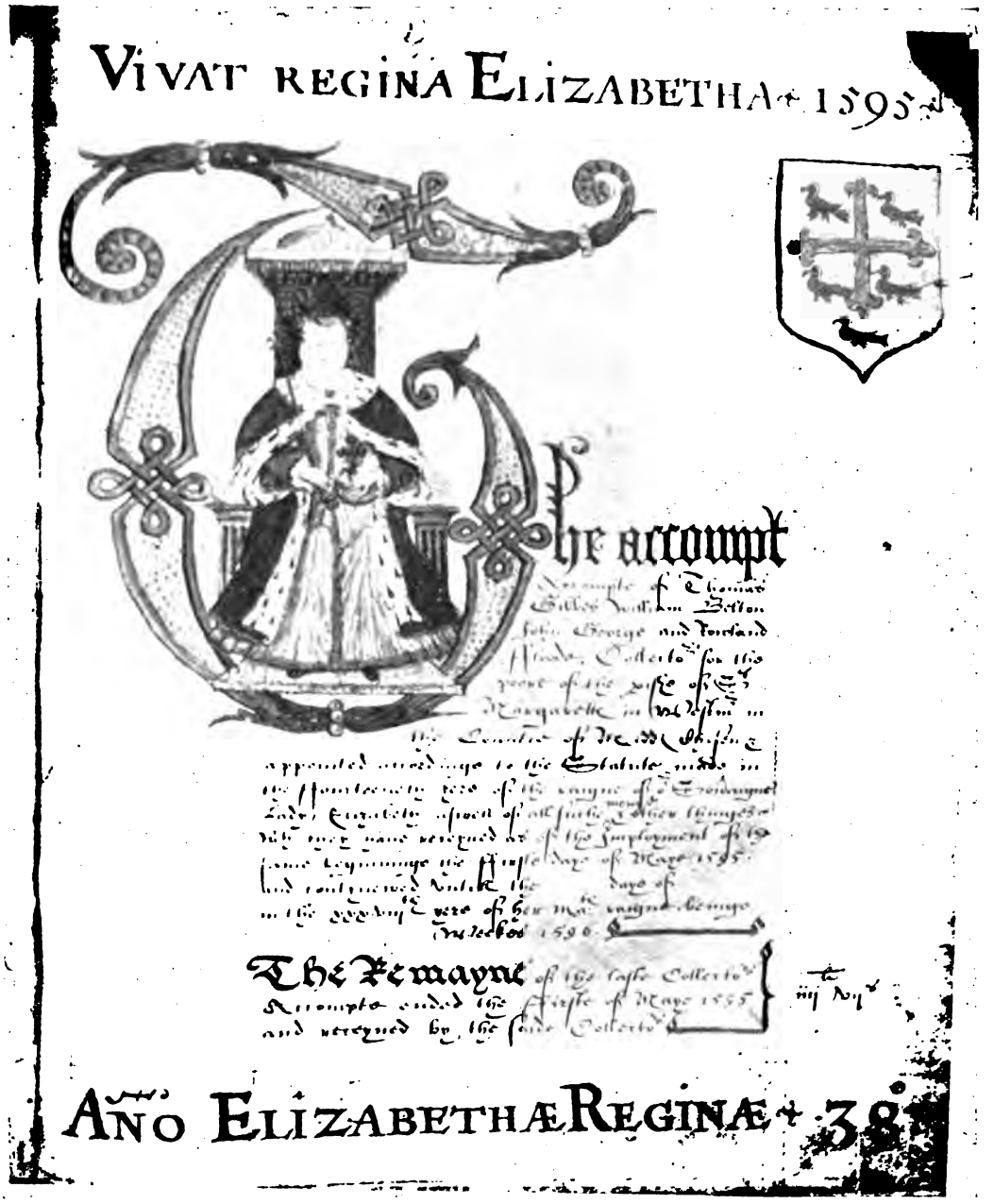
‡ Some singular names occur, chiefly among the recipients of relief at this period, *e.g.*:—

Honey Killboy	Ancorit Waine	Drinkall
Coldducke	Kindlematch	Widdow Killbreath
Cherrytree	Tapertoe	Wildblood
Trymore Smith	Sandy the singing man	Ffrogpitt
Jeremie Tailcoat	Littlefare (a beggar)	Sawpitt
Ffridaysweede Savory	Tarbox	Spittlehowse
Duke Humfray (a foundling)	Beast	Constantina Seavenhouses
Pennyale		

And it is curious to notice that in 1638 Richard Graygoose succeeds John Fox as dog killer—rather an inversion of the usual order of things in which the dog follows the fox that kills the goose.

The name given to the foundling probably indicates that he was unprovided with food, 'Duke Humphrey' at that time being synonymous with 'dinnerless.' Those who used to resort to 'Paul's Walk,' as the nave of the ancient St. Paul's was called, and were unable to procure a dinner by their own money or the favour of their friends, were commonly spoken of as 'dining with Duke Humphrey,' there being a monument on the south side which was

TITLE PAGE OF OVERSEERS' ACCOUNTS, 1593.



TITLE PAGE OF OVERSEERS' ACCOUNTS, 1595-6.

No.	Title or Nature of Record.	Year.	Shelf.
152	Overseers' Accounts. Six sections bound in one volume, marked "H," viz. :—	1624 to 1630	82
	1624 to 1625 — 1627 to 1628		
	1625 to 1626 — 1628 to 1629		
	1626 to 1627 — 1629 to 1630		
	[The section for 1625-6 includes an account relating to the poor visited of the plague "in this most lamentable yeare of Contagion."]		
153	Overseers' Accounts. Seven sections bound in one volume, marked "I," viz, :—	1630 to 1637	82
	1630 to 1631 — 1634 to 1635		
	1631 to 1632 — 1635 to 1636		
	1632 to 1633 — 1636 to 1637		
	1633 to 1634		
154	Overseers' Accounts. Four sections bound in one volume, marked "K," viz. :—	1637 to 1641	82
	1637 to 1638 — 1639 to 1640		
	1638 to 1639 — 1640 to 1641		
155	Overseers' Accounts	1641	82
156	" "	1642	
157	" "	1643	
158	" "	1644	
159	" "	1645	83
160	" "	1646	
161	" "	1647	
162	" "	1648	
163	" "	1649	
164	" "	*1650	

erroneously supposed to be that of Humphrey, Duke of Gloucester. Gayton, in his *Art of Longevity*, 1659, refers to the custom:—

> "Wherefore we do amand Duke Humphrey's guest,
> For their provision truly is o' th' least:
> A dog hath fare much better with his bones
> Than those whose table, meat and drink are stones."

Numerous other old writers also refer to it; and Dickens makes allusion to it in describing the antecedents of Diggory Chuzzlewit.

The last two names, 'Seavenhouses' and 'Spittlehowse,' also suggest that the bearers were foundlings named, as was customary, after the place in which they were found. The 'seven houses' or 'five chimneys,' of which a sketch is given in *Parochial Memorials of St. John, Westminster*, were known for many years as the Pest-houses in Tothill-fields. They stood near that part of Douglas-street which communicates with the Vauxhall Bridge-road by a court called Douglas-gardens. The Spital house was probably that at Knightsbridge.

* Students of the life and times of Cromwell would be interested to note how, during his residence in King Street, many of the better class houses (judging from the assessments) in the vicinity were

No.	Title or Nature of Record.	Year.	Shelf.
165	Overseers' Accounts	1651	83
166	" "	1652	

[In the accounts of this and the three following years "Mr. Milton" is entered among the rated occupiers in "Petty France North." His assessment was 16s. per annum.

The credit side of the account shows numerous receipts in fines for breaking the Sabbath, as, *e.g.*:—

Recd. 9 Maii for one entertaining company to drincke on the Sabboath day	xs.
Recd. of one Charrett for sweareing on oath	iijs. iiijd.
Recd. of Wm. Johnson for carrying a burthen on the Lord's day ...	iijs. iiijd.
Recd. of Mr. ffrancklin for company drincking on a humiliacon day	vjs. viijd.
Recd. of Mr. Winter, for goeing in a Coach on the Lord's day ...	viijs.
Recd. of John Neale for carrying bootes on the Lord's day ...	xxd.
Recd. of Robert Cain and Humprey Painter for playing in the feilds	xijd.

No less than 72 of the items related to fines, of which 29 were for breaches of observance of the Lord's Day.

Sir Robert Pye, whose name is perpetuated in the Pye-street of the present day, and who was a Vestryman in 1642 and for several subsequent years, is rated at different times as in the New Palace and the New Way, and Sir Robert Stone, referred to in the Thurloe Papers as a leader of the Royalist insurrection, appears as rated in Tuttle-street North.]

167	Overseers' Accounts	1653
168	" "	1654
169	" "	1655
170	" "	1656
171	" "	1657
172	" "	1658
173	" "	1659
174	" "	1661
175	" "	1662
176	" "	1663
177	" "	1664
178	" "	1665

occupied by his leading adherents and military supporters. It may have been the knowledge of this fact which suggested to Milton, then living in Petty France, the commencement of his sonnet :—

'Captain or Colonel or Knight in Arms.'

Several of Cromwell's relations, besides a number of Royalist officers, were also residents in the parish at the time, so that, besides Ireton, and Faulconbridge (sometimes written Falconbirde), and Barkstead and Firebrace and Monk, there are 'captaines or collonells' to be found in the rate-book by the score. Palgrave, who quotes from the Thurloe papers, says that conspicuous political busy-bodies and agitators had a rendezvous at the 'Blew Boar' in King Street at the time. The same talented author says that "The military party, not content with ruling through Cromwell, undertook rulership themselves . . They thought it was necessary to have Major-Generals. England was accordingly parcelled out into military cantons, and over each canton was placed a Major-General as its Governor." Sir John Barkstead was made military governor of Middlesex; and the following are entered on the credit side of the Overseers' accounts for 1650 and 1655 respectively:—

Received the 15th of November of Colonell Barkstead wch he received of a person taken att a play	vs.
Of Maior Generall Sr John Barkstead for moneys forfeited by riders of horses taken in Tuttle ffeilds on the Sabath day	iiij li.

No.	Title or Nature of Record.	Year.	Shelf.
179	Overseers' Accounts	1666	83
180	" "	1667	
181	" "	1668	
182	" "	1669	
183	" "	1670	
184	" "	1671	
185	" "	1672	
186	" "	1673	
187	" "	1674	
188	" "	1675	
189	" "	1676	
190	" "	1677	
191	" "	1678	
192	" "	1679	
193	" "	1680	
194	" "	1681	
195	" "	1682	
196	" "	1683	84
197	" "	1684	
198	" "	1685	
199	" "	1686	

[In this year and those immediately preceding and following, quite a number of notable men are entered as rated occupiers, *e.g.*, Erasmus Dryden, the elder brother of the poet. He was churchwarden in 1687, and carried on business as a grocer in King-street, until he succeeded to the baronetcy; Purcell, the musician, lived in Bowling Alley East; Sir John Cutler, who erected one of the galleries in the church, and founded one of the charities which is still administered as part of the Westminster Technical Fund, is rated in George and Plow Yard; the notorious Jeffreys, Lord Chancellor of James II., had his abode in Duke-street, in a house built by his neighbour, Moses Pitts, who is stated, in a biography of the "infamous judge," never to have received payment for it, and "Collonell Kyrke" is shown as the tenant of a house in Pensioners' Alley. He derived a notoriety as the officer in command of a regiment of dragoons, known as Kirk's Lambs, who were the perpetrators of many of the atrocities of the "bloody assizes." Lewis Cornelis appears rated as the occupier of "Hell," the companion tavern to "Heaven," "Purgatory," and "Paradise." Walcott describes the first and third-named as subterraneous passages; but later on says the first-named was "a petty tavern frequented by lawyers' clerks." The proximity of the places appears to have suggested Butler's line in his *Hudibras*:—

"False Heaven at the end of Hell"

and Ben Jonson, in representing one of his characters as forbidden—

"To break his fast in Heaven or Hell"

seems to confirm the statement that the places were refreshment houses. The diarist Pepys, in concluding his day's proceedings on 28th January, 1659-60, says, "And so I returned and went to Heaven, where Luellin and I dined." Lord Braybrooke adds that it was "a place of entertainment in Old Palace Yard."

No.	Title or Nature of Record.	Year.	Shelf.
200	Overseers' Accounts	1687	84
201	" "	1688	
202	" "	1689	
203	" "	1690	
204	" "	1691	
205	" "	1692	
206	" "	1693	
207	" "	1694	
208	" "	1695	
209	" "	1696	
210	" "	1697	
211	" "	1698	
212	" "	1699	
213	" "	1700	
214	" "	1701	
215	" "	1702	
216	" "	1703	
217	" "	1704	
218	" "	1705	
219	" "	1706	
220	" "	1707	
221	" "	1708	
222	" "	1709	
223	" "	1710	
224	" "	1711	
225	" " (Additional Poor Rate)	1711	
226	" "	1712	
227	" " (Additional Poor Rate)	1712	
228	" "	1713	
229	" " (Additional Poor Rate)	1713	
230	" "	1714	
231	" " (Additional Poor Rate)	1714	
232	" "	1715	
233	" "	1716	
234	" "	1717	
235	" "	1718	
236	" "	1719	85

PAGE FROM THE OVERSEERS' ACCOUNTS, 1599.

Distributions extraordinarie.

Distributions extraordinary alwell to sicke persons as to divers other poore people impotent and in great necessitie wherethere was vrgent cause of succor and releife.

Page from the Overseers' Accounts, 1618, with grotesque initial letter D.

No.	Title or Nature of Record.	Year.	Shelf.
237	Overseers' Accounts	1720	85
238	" "	1721	
239	" "	1722	
240	" "	1723	
241	" "	1724	
242	" "	1725	
243	" "	1726	
244	" "	1727	
245	" "	1728	
246	" "	1729	
247	" "	1730	
248	" "	1731	
249	" "	1732	
250	" "	1733	
251	" "	1734	
252	" "	1735	
253	" "	1736	
254	" "	1737	
255	" "	1738	
256	" "	1739	
257	" "	1740	
258	" "	1741	
259	" "	1742	
260	" "	1743	
261	" "	1744	
262	" "	1745	
263	" "	1746	
264	" "	1747	
265	" "	1748	
266	" "	1749	
267	" "	1750	
268	" "	1751	
	[For the period between 1751 and 1772 see Nos. 384 *et seq.*]		
269	Paving Accounts, Dividend Book (Parochial)... ...	1772 to 1776	86
270	" " "	1777 to 1779	
271	" " "	1780 to 1782	
272	" " "	1782 to 1786	

No.	Title or Nature of Record.	Year.	Shelf.
273	Paving Accounts, Dividend Book (Parochial)... ...	1786 to 1790	86
274	" " "	1790 to 1794	
275	" " "	1795 to 1803	
276	" " "	1804 to 1816	
277	" " "	1816 to 1835	
278	" " (Optional streets)	1766 to 1771	
279	" " "	1771 to 1774	
280	" " "	1775 to 1778	
281	" " "	1778 to 1782	
282	" " "	1782 to 1789	
283	" " "	1798 to 1809	
284	" " "	1809 to 1829	
285	" "	1767 to 1815	
286	Sunday Tolls (Summary)	1765 to 1768	
287	" (Account)	1765 to 1776	
288	" (Ledger)	1765 to 1814	
289	" (Journal)	1765 to 1801	
290	" "	1802 to 1814	
291	Account of moneys expended for use of poor visited with the plague. (See also Churchwardens' Accounts)*	1636 to 1638	76

[If any attempts were made to focus the entries relating to the several visitations of the plague, they were not successful, for items are to be found scattered in the general accounts of the churchwardens, in these special accounts, and in those of the overseers. This volume would repay an analysis; but a few items, taken out indiscriminately, are sufficient to show the severity of the epidemic at the time. In the week ending 30th September, 1638, there were 239 persons in receipt of relief, including 19 in the seven "shedds" then newly erected "in Tuttle Fields under the church wall." The outlay in relief for the week ending 14th October, 1638, was £35 6s. 11d.; the total from July, 1636, to February, 1638-9, £1,199 13s. 11d. To meet the expense, money was borrowed at 8 per cent. interest. Sixpence was paid "for oakre (ochre) for crosseing the doores," 2d. for killing a dogge in the pallace, 6d. for franckincense and pitch to ayre the sheds, 10s. "att severall times for printed Bills of Lord have mercy uppon us to sett uppon the visited houses." The beadle was paid 30s. for shutting up visited houses and setting bills and red crosses on the doors, and 10d. was expended in the purchase of "a hand baskett and a pott to fetch beare in for the visited."]

292	Rate for relief of persons visited by plague. (See also Churchwardens' Accounts No. 47.)	1665-6	

* See the notes to No. 47, p. 69. The plague of 1665-6 did not, as is frequently supposed, take the people by surprise. They had suffered several previous visitations, although none of them had assumed such grave dimensions. Thus the account (No. 291) of William Lingham and William Howard, the Churchwardens of 1636-8, show that within nineteen months no less than £1,199 13s. 11½d. had been "expended for the use of the poor visited with the plague." Three rates were levied through-

No.	Title or Nature of Record.	Year.	Shelf.
293	Rate for relief of poor (duplicate)	1673	76
294	,, ,, ,, ,, ...	1674	
295	,, ,, ,, ,, ...	1678	
296	,, ,, ,, ,, ...	1679	
297	,, ,, ,, ,, ...	1682	
298	,, ,, ,, ,, ...	1683	
299	,, ,, ,, (ledger)	1684	
300	,, ,, ,, ,, ...	1685	
301	,, ,, ,, ,, ...	1686	
302	,, ,, ,, ,, ...	1687	
303	,, ,, ,, ,, ...	1688	
304	,, ,, ,, ,, ...	1689	
305	,, ,, ,, ,, ...	1690	
306	,, ,, ,, (no caption)	1691	
307	,, ,, ,, (ledger)	1692	
308	,, ,, ,, ,, ...	1693	
309	,, ,, ,, ,, ...	1694	
310	,, ,, ,, ,, ...	1695	
311	,, ,, ,, ,, ...	1696	
312	,, ,, ,, ,, ...	1697	
313	,, ,, ,, ,, ...	1699	
314	,, ,, ,, ,, ...	1700	
315	,, ,, ,, ,, ...	1701	
316	,, ,, ,, ,, ...	1702	
317	,, ,, ,, ,, ...	1703	
318	,, ,, ,, (no caption)	1704	

out the parish, besides which the Benevolences produced £186 15s. Twenty persons were rated at Knightsbridge and six at Kensington, and £303 2s. 8d. was received from "divers landlords towards the maintenance of their poor tenants chargeable to the parish." Urgent payments were met by loans contracted while the collection of the rates was in progress.

The precautions against infection are first exhibited by the entry:—

To the dog killer for cxi doggs & catts at id. and ½d. per dogg or catt.. .. xiijs. xd.

In the second week 81 dogs and cats are accounted for, in the third and fourth weeks 70 each, and in the fifth week 20 (352 in all), after which the number can only be inferred from the payment made:—

5th September. To the dogg killer .. .. vid.

The wooden "shedds" erected in Tuttle ffeilds for the isolation of the sufferers were fully occupied, and the diet of the patients may be gathered from the following items:—

For 1 c. of cheese (ijd. per lb.) .. .. xviijs. viijd.
For 1 c. of cheese (ij½d. per lb.) .. .. i li. ijs.
For a firkin of butter (about vd. per lb.) .. .. i li. ijs. vjd.
To Swanstone for beare, bread and other ware .. .. is.
For ij. potts of beare for the Chirurgeon and searchers afore they went into the house .. .. ijd.

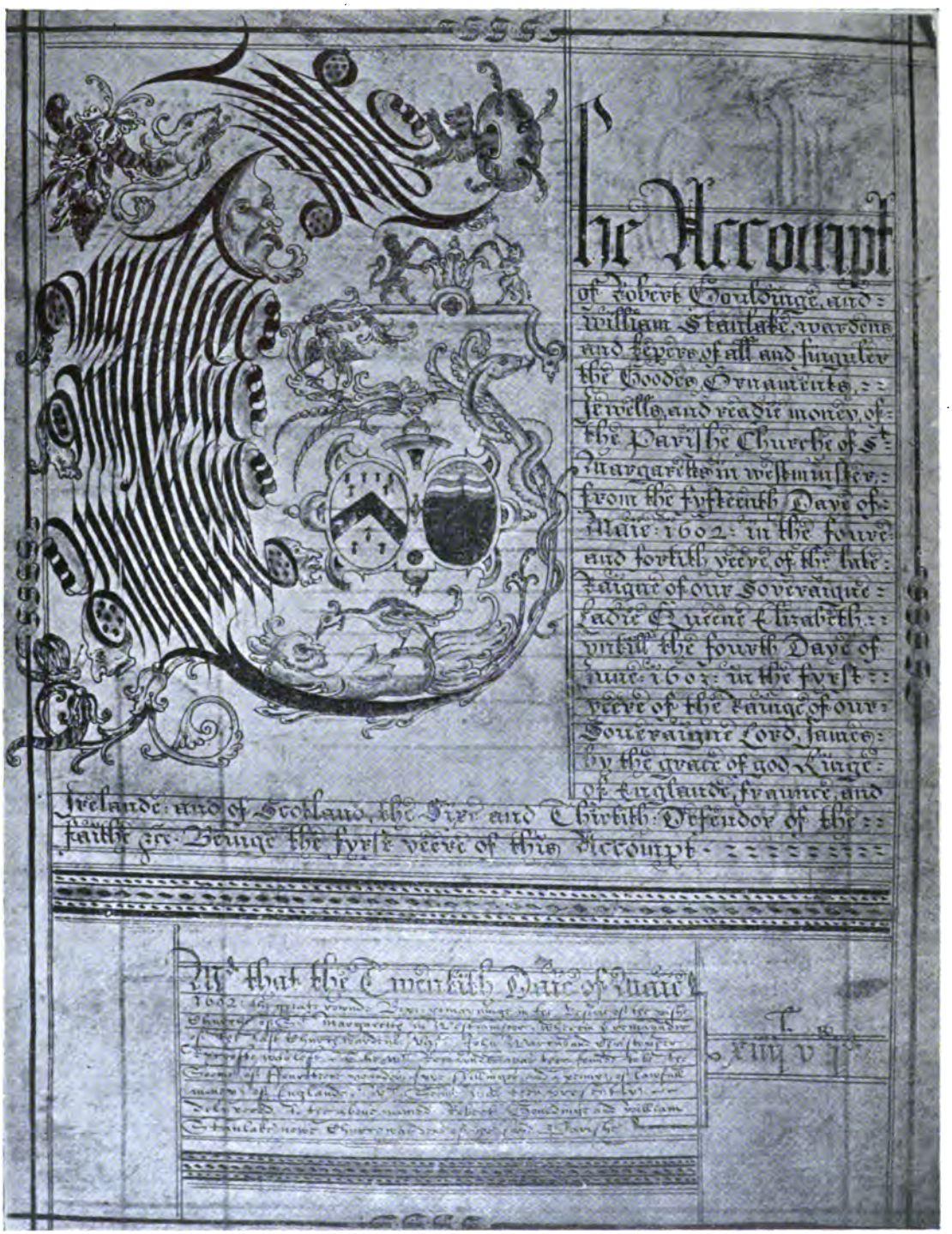
On two days, 10th and 11th September, relief in cash was given to 156 persons.

No.	Title or Nature of Record.	Year.	Shelf
319	Rate for relief of poor	1705	76
320	,, ,, ,, ...	1706	
321	,, ,, ,, ...	1707	
322	,, ,, ,, ...	1708	
323	,, ,, ,, ...	1709	
324	,, ,, ,, (additional ledger)	1709	
325	,, ,, ,, (ledger)	1711	75
326	,, ,, ,, (additional ledger)	1711	
327	,, ,, ,, (ledger)	1712	
328	,, ,, ,, (additional ledger)	1712	
329	,, ,, ,, (ledger)	1713	
330	,, ,, ,, (additional ledger)	1713	
331	,, ,, ,, (ledger)	1714	
332	,, ,, ,, (additional ledger)	1714	
333	,, ,, ,, (ledger)	1715	
334	,, ,, ,, (additional ledger)	1715	
335	,, ,, ,, ,, ...	1716	
336	,, ,, ,, (a column with scavenger rate) ...	1716	
337	,, ,, ,, (ledger)	1717	
338	,, ,, ,, ,, ...	1718	
339	,, ,, ,, ,, ...	1719	
340	,, ,, ,, ,, ...	1720	
341	,, ,, ,, ,, ...	1721	
342	,, ,, ,, ,, ...	1722	
343	,, ,, ,, (Watch ledger)	1722	

[This is the first specific mention of "the Watch" in the rates. The expenses were defrayed from the poor rate previously. The system of "the watch" was noticed in the *Parochial Memorials of St. John, Westminster*, 1890.]

344	Rate for relief of poor (ledger)	1723	
345	,, ,, ,, ,, ...	1724	
346	,, ,, ,, ,, ...	1725	
347, 348	,, ,, ,, (two books)	1726	
349	,, ,, ,, ...	1728	
350	,, ,, ,, (ledger)	1729	
351	,, ,, ,, ,, ...	1730	
352	,, ,, ,, ,, ...	1731	

Title Page of Churchwardens' Accounts, 1600-1601.
[Arms of the Fraternity of "White Bakers."]



The Accompt
of Robert Gouldinge, and
William Stanlake, wardens
and kepers of all and singuler
the Goodes Ornaments,
Jewells, and readie money, of
the Parishe Churche of St
Margaretts in westminster,
from the fyfteenth Daye of
Maie: 1602: in the foure
and fortith yeere of the late
raigne of our Soveraigne
Ladie Queene Elizabeth
untill the fourth Daye of
June: 1603: in the fyrst
yeere of the rainge of our
Soveraigne Lord, James
by the grace of god Kinge
of Englande, fraunce, and
Irelande: and of Scotland, the Sixe and Thirtith: Defendor of the
faithe &c. Beinge the fyrse yeere of this Accompt

Mr that the Twentith Daie of Maie

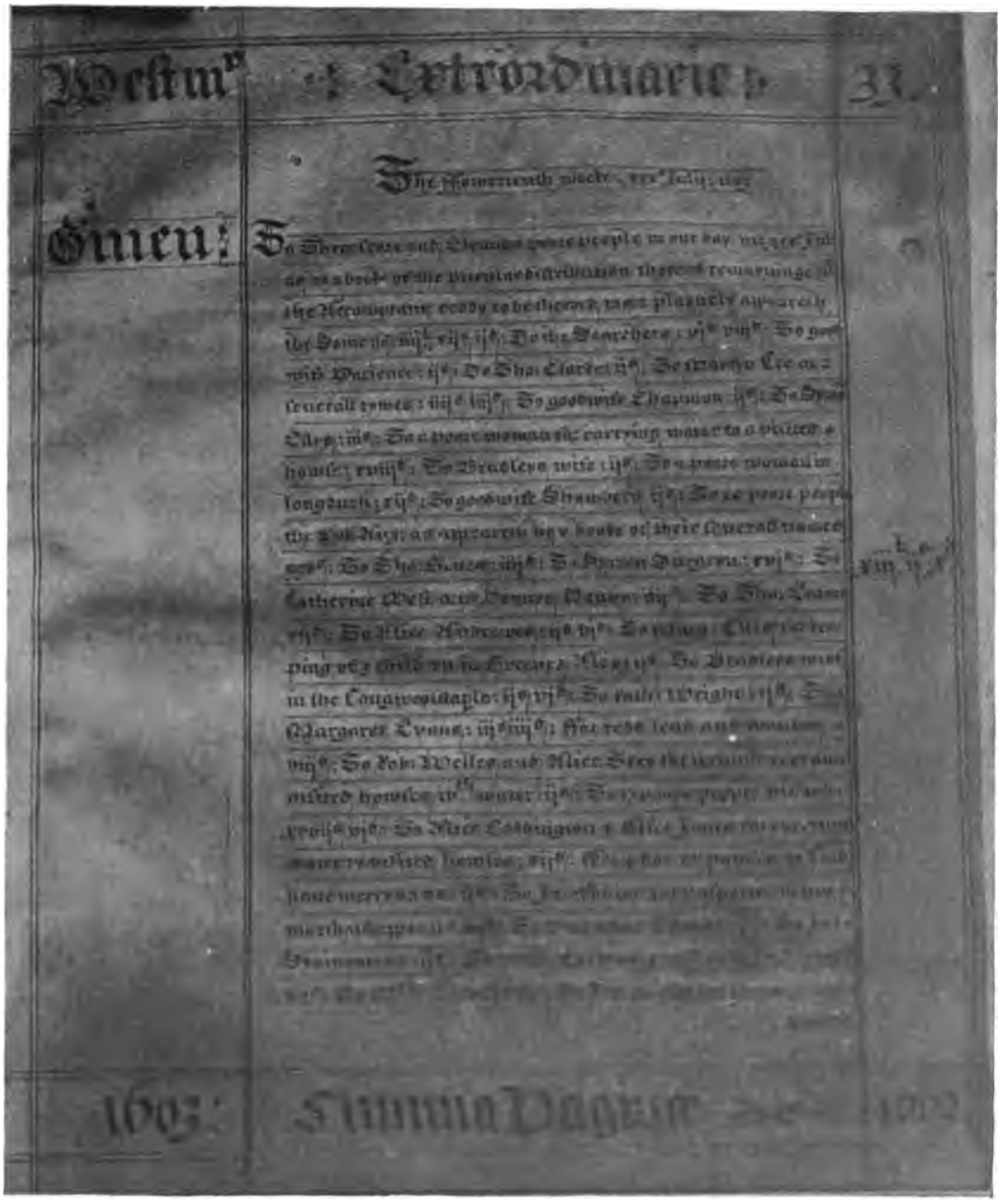
TITLE PAGE OF CHURCHWARDENS' ACCOUNTS, 1602-3.
[Arms of the Grocers and White Bakers. The original is artistically coloured.]

No.	Title or Nature of Record.	Year.	Shelf.
353	Rate for relief of poor (ledger)	1732	75
354	" " " "	1733	
355	" " " "	1734	74
356	" " " "	1735	
357	" " " "	1736	
358	" " " "	1737	
359	" " " "	1738	
360	" " " "	1739	
361	" " " (Absey Division)	1740	
362	" " " (ledger)	1740	
363	Rate for relief of poor, lame, impotent, old, and blind (ledger)	1741	
364	" " " (Grand Division)	1741	
365	" " " (ledger) ...	1742	
366	" " " " ...	1743	
367	" " " " ...	1744	
368	" " " " ...	1745	
369	" " " " ...	1746	
370	" " " (St. John) ..	1746	
371	" " " (ledger) ...	1747	
372	" " " (Grand) ...	1747	
373	" " " (ledger) ...	1749-50	
374	" " " (Absey) ...	1750	
375	" " " (ledger) ...	1751	
376	" " " (St. John) ...	1751	
377	Rate for relief of poor, highway, scavenger, and watch (ledger)	1752	
378	" " " (Grand) ...	1752	
379	" " " (Absey) ...	1752	
380	" " " (St. John) ...	1752	
381	" " " (Grand) ...	1752	
382	" " " (Absey) ...	1752	
383	" " " (St. John) ...	1752	
384	" " " (Grand) ...	1753	73
385	" " " (Absey) ...	1753	
386	" " " (St. John) ...	1753	
387	" " " no caption (ledger)	1753	
388	" " " (Grand) ...	1754	
389	" " " (Absey) ...	1754	

No.	Title or Nature of Record.	Year.	Shelf.
390	Rate for relief of poor, highway, scavenger (St. John) ...	1754	73
391	,, ,, ,, and Watch (ledger)	1754	
392	,, ,, ,, (Grand) ...	1755	
393	,, ,, ,, (Absey) ...	1755	
394	,, ,, ,, (St. John) ...	1755	
395	,, ,, ,, and Watch (ledger)	1755	
396	,, ,, ,, (Grand) ...	1756	
397	,, ,, ,, (Absey) ...	1756	
398	,, ,, ,, (St. John) ...	1756	
399	,, ,, ,, and Watch (ledger)	1756	
400	,, ,, ,, (Grand) ...	1757	
401	,, ,, ,, (Absey) ...	1757	
402	,, ,, ,, (St. John) ...	1757	
403	,, ,, ,, and Watch (ledger)	1757	
404	,, ,, ,, (Grand) ...	1758	
405	,, ,, ,, (Absey) ...	1758	
406	,, ,, ,, (St. John) ...	1758	
407	,, ,, ,, and Watch (ledger)	1758	
408	,, ,, ,, (Grand) ...	1759	
409	,, ,, ,, (Absey) ...	1759	
410	,, ,, ,, (St. John) ...	1759	
411	,, ,, ,, and Watch (ledger)	1759	
412	,, ,, ,, (Grand) ...	1760	
413	,, ,, ,, (Absey) ...	1760	
414	,, ,, ,, (St. John) ...	1760	
415	,, ,, ,, and Watch (ledger)	1760	
416	,, ,, ,, (Grand) ...	1761	
417	,, ,, ,, (Absey) ...	1761	
418	,, ,, ,, (St. John) ...	1761	
419	,, ,, ,, and Watch (ledger)	1761	
420	,, ,, ,, (Grand) ...	1762	72
421	,, ,, ,, (Absey) ...	1762	
422	,, ,, ,, (St. John) ...	1762	
423	,, ,, ,, and Watch (ledger)	1762	
424	,, ,, ,, (Grand) ...	1763	
425	,, ,, ,, (Absey) ..	1763	
426	,, ,, ,, (St. John) ...	1763	

No.	Title or Nature of Record.	Year.	Shelf.
427	Rate for relief of poor, highway, scavenger, and Watch (ledger)	1763	72
428	,, ,, ,, (Grand) ...	1764	
429	,, ,, ,, (Absey) ...	1764	
430	,, ,, ,, (St. John) ...	1764	
431	,, ,, ,, and Watch (ledger)	1764	
432	,, ,, ,, (Grand) ...	1765	
433	,, ,, ,, (Absey) ...	1765	
434	,, ,, ,, (St. John) ...	1765	
435	,, ,, ,, no Watch (ledger)	1765	
436	,, ,, ,, (Grand) ...	1766	
437	,, ,, ,, (Absey) ...	1766	
438	,, ,, ,, (St. John) ...	1766	
439	,, ,, ,, no Watch (ledger)	1766	
440	,, ,, ,, (Grand) ...	1767	
441	,, ,, ,, (Absey) ...	1767	
442	,, ,, ,, (St. John) ...	1767	
443	,, ,, ,, no Watch (ledger)	1767	
444	,, ,, ,, (Grand) ...	1768	
445	,, ,, ,, (Absey) ...	1768	
446	,, ,, ,, (St. John) ...	1768	
447	,, ,, ,, no Watch (ledger)	1768	
448	,, ,, ,, (Grand) ...	1769	
449	,, ,, ,, (Absey) ...	1769	
450	,, ,, ,, (St. John) ...	1769	
451	,, ,, ,, no Watch (ledger)	1769	
452	,, ,, ,, (Grand) ...	1770	
453	,, ,, ,, (Absey) ...	1770	
454	,, ,, ,, (St. John) ...	1770	
455	,, ,, ,, no Watch (ledger)	1770	
456	,, ,, ,, (Grand) ...	1771	
457	,, ,, ,, (Absey) ...	1771	
458 } 459 }	,, ,, ,, (St. John) 2 books	1771	71
460	,, ,, ,, no Watch (ledger)	1771	
461	,, ,, ,, (Grand) ...	1771	
462	,, ,, ,, (Absey) ..	1771	

No.	Title or Nature of Record.	Year.	Shelf.
463	Rate for relief of poor, highway, scavenger (Grand) ...	1772	71
464	" " " (Absey) ...	1772	
465	" " " (St. John) ...	1772	
466	" " " no Watch (ledger)	1772	
467	" " " (Grand) ...	1773	
468	" " " (Absey) ...	1773	
469	" " " (St. John) ...	1773	
470	" " " (ledger) ...	1773	
471	" " " (Grand) ...	1774	
472	" " " (Absey) ...	1774	
473	" " " (St. John) ...	1774	
474	" " " no Watch (ledger)	1774	
475	" " " (Grand) ...	1775	
476	" " " (Absey) ...	1775	
477	" " " (St. John) ...	1775	
478	" " " (Grand) ...	1776	
479	" " " (Absey) ...	1776	
480	" " " (St. John) ...	1776	
481	" " " (Grand) ...	1777	
482	" " " (Absey) ...	1777	
483	" " " (St. John) ...	1777	
484	" " " no Watch (ledger)	1777	
485	" " " (Grand) ...	1778	
486	" " " (Absey) ...	1778	
487	" " " (St. John) ...	1778	
488	" " " (Grand) ...	1779	
489	" " " (Absey) ...	1779	
490	" " " (St. John) ...	1779	
491	" " " no Watch (ledger)	1779	
492	" " " (Grand) ...	1780	70
493	" " " (Absey) ...	1780	
494	" " " (St. John) ...	1780	
495	" " " no Watch (ledger)	1780	
496	" " " (Grand) ...	1781	
497	" " " (St. John) ...	1781	
498	" " " no Watch (ledger)	1781	
499	" " " (Grand) ...	1782	



A Page from the Churchwardens' Accounts, 1603.

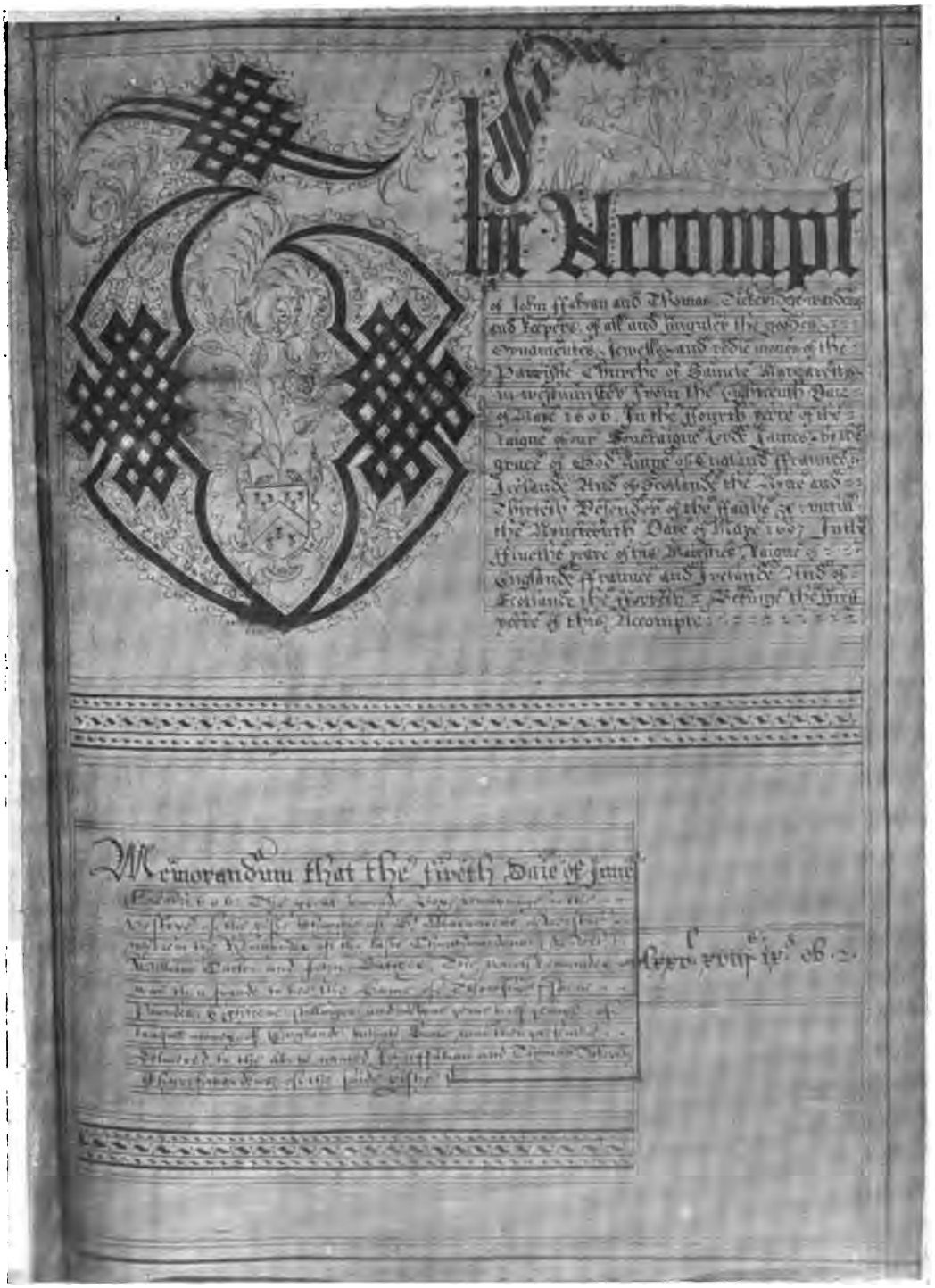
[Fine specimen of penmanship; and shows several payments for carrying water to visited houses.]

TITLE PAGE OF CHURCHWARDENS' ACCOUNTS, 1604-5.

[The Arms of the Vintners' and the Butchers' Companies, to which the Accountants presumably belonged, are shown in the initial letter, which is beautifully coloured in the original.]

No.	Title or Nature of Record.	Year.	Shelf.
500	Rate for relief of poor, highway, scavenger (Absey) ...	1782	70
501	" " " (St. John) ...	1782	
502	" " " (Grand) ...	1783	
503	" " " (Absey) ...	1783	
504	" " " (Grand) ...	1784	
505	" " " (Absey) ...	1784	
506	" " " (St. John) ...	1784	
507	" " " no Watch (ledger)	1784	
508	" " " (Grand) ...	1785	
509	" " " (Absey) ...	1785	
510	" " " (St. John) ...	1785	
511	" " " no Watch (ledger)	1785	
512	" " " (Grand) ...	1786	
513	" " " (Absey) ...	1786	
514	" " " (St. John) ...	1786	
515	" " " no Watch (ledger)	1786	
516	" " " (Grand) ...	1787	
517	" " " (Absey) ...	1787	
518	" " " (St. John) ...	1787	
519	" " " (Grand) ...	1788	
520	" " " (Absey) ...	1788	
521	" " " (Absey) ...	1788	
522	" " " (St. John) ...	1788	
523	" " " (Grand) ...	1789	
524	" " " (Absey) ...	1789	
525	" " " (St. John) ...	1789	
526	" " " (ledger) ...	1789	
527	" " " (Grand) ...	1789	69
528	" " " (Absey) ...	1789	
529	" " " (St. John) ...	1789	
530	" " " (Grand) ...	1790	
531	" " " (Absey) ...	1790	
532	" " " (St. John) ...	1790	
533	" " " (Grand) ...	1791	
534	" " " (Absey) ...	1791	
535	" " " (St. John) ...	1791	
536	" " " (Grand) ...	1792	

No.	Title or Nature of Record.					Year.	Shelf.
537	Rate for relief of poor, highway, scavenger			(Absey)	...	1792	69
538	,,	,,	,,	(St. John)	...	1792	
539	,,	,,	,,	(Grand)	...	1793	
540	,,	,,	,,	(Absey)	...	1793	
541	,,	,,	,,	(St. John)	...	1793	
542	,,	,,	,,	(Grand)	...	1794	
543	,,	,,	,,	(Absey)	...	1794	
544	,,	,,	,,	(St. John)	...	1794	
545	,,	,,	,,	(Grand)	...	1795	
546	,,	,,	,,	(Absey)	...	1795	
547	,,	,,	,,	(St. John)	...	1795	
548	,,	,,	,,	(Grand)	...	1796	
549	,,	,,	,,	(Absey)	...	1796	
550	,,	,,	,,	(St. John)	...	1796	
551	,,	,,	,,	(Grand)	...	1797	
552	,,	,,	,,	(Absey)	...	1797	
553	,,	,,	,,	(St. John)	...	1797	
554	,,	,,	,,	(Grand)	...	1798	
555	,,	,,	,,	(Absey)	...	1798	
556	,,	,,	,,	(St. John)	...	1798	
557	,,	,,	,,	(Grand)	...	1799	
558	,,	,,	,,	(Absey)	...	1799	
559	,,	,,	,,	(St. John)	...	1799	
560	,,	,,	,,	(Grand)	...	1800	
561	,,	,,	,,	(Absey)	...	1800	
562	,,	,,	,,	(St. John)	...	1800	
563	,,	,,	,,	(Grand)	...	1801	68
564	,,	,,	,,	(Absey)	...	1801	
565	,,	,,	,,	(St. John)	...	1801	
566	,,	,,	,,	(Grand)	...	1802	
567	,,	,,	,,	(Absey)	..	1802	
568	,,	,,	,,	(St. John)	...	1802	
569	,,	,,	,,	(Grand)	...	1803	
570	,,	,,	,,	(Absey)	...	1803	
571	,,	,,	,,	(St. John)	...	1803	
572	,,	,,	,,	(Grand)	...	1804	
573	,,	,,	,,	(Absey)	...	1804	



Title Page of Churchwardens' Accounts, 1606-7.
[Arms of the Grocers' Company.]

The Accompt of
John ffabyan and Thomas Tickeridge
wardens and keepers as aforesaide
of the Parishe Churche of Sainct
Margarets in westminster from
the Nyneteenth Daie of Maie
1607. In the fiveth yeere of the
Raigne of our Soveraigne Lorde
James by the grace of God
Kinge of Englande ffraunce and
Ireland and of Scotland the xxxix
defendor of the faithe &c. vnto the
xij th Daie of Maie 1608. in the
Sixte yeere of his Maties saide
Raigne of England ffraunce and
of Scotlande the One and
ffortieth &c. Beeinge the Seconde
yeere of this Accompt

The saide Accomptaunts
doe Charge themselves in
the Seconde yeare with the
Soome of C.l xiiij.s vij.d ob.

C.l xiiij.s vij.d ob.

TITLE PAGE OF CHURCHWARDENS' ACCOUNTS, 1607-8.

No.	Title or Nature of Record.					Year.	Shelf.
574	Rate for relief of poor, highway, scavenger			(St. John)	...	1804	68
575	,,	,,	,,	(Grand)	...	1805	
576	,,	,,	,,	(Absey)	...	1805	
577	,,	,,	,,	(St. John)	...	1805	
578	,,	,,	,,	(Grand)	...	1806	
579	,,	,,	,,	(Absey)	...	1806	
580	,,	,,	,,	(St. John)	...	1806	
581	,,	,,	,,	(Grand)	...	1807	
582	,,	,,	,,	(Absey)	...	1807	
583	,,	,,	,,	(St. John)	...	1807	
584	,,	,,	,,	(Grand)	...	1808	
585	,,	,,	,,	(Absey)	...	1808	
586	,,	,,	,,	(St. John)	...	1808	
587	,,	,,	,,	(Grand)	...	1809	
588	,,	,,	,,	(Absey)	...	1809	
589	,,	,,	,,	(St. John)	...	1809	
590	,,	,,	,,	(Grand)	...	1810	
591	,,	,,	,,	(Absey)	...	1810	
592	,,	,,	,,	(St. John)	...	1810	
593	,,	,,	,,	(Grand)	...	1811	
594	,,	,,	,,	(Absey)	...	1811	
595	,,	,,	,,	(St. John)	...	1811	
596	,,	,,	,,	(Grand)	...	1812	67
597	,,	,,	,,	(Absey)	...	1812	
598	,,	,,	,,	(St. John)	...	1812	
599	,,	,,	,,	(Grand)	...	1812	
600	,,	,,	,,	(Absey)	...	1812	
601	,,	,,	,,	(St. John)	...	1812	
602	,,	,,	,,	(Grand)	...	1813	
603	,,	,,	,,	(Absey)	...	1813	
604	,,	,,	,,	(St. John)	...	1813	
605	,,	,,	,,	(Grand)	...	1813	
606	,,	,,	,,	(Absey)	...	1813	
607	,,	,,	,,	(St. John)	...	1813	
608	,,	,,	,,	(Grand)	...	1814	
609	,,	,,	,,	(Absey)	...	1814	
610	,,	,,	,,	(St. John)	...	1814	

No.	Title or Nature of Record.					Year.	Shelf.
611	Rate for relief of poor, highway, scavenger			(Grand)	...	1815	67
612	,,	,,	,,	(Absey)	...	1815	
613	,,	,,	,,	(St. John)	...	1815	
614	,,	,,	,,	(Grand)	...	1816	
615	,,	,,	,,	(Absey)	...	1816	
616	,,	,,	,,	(St. John)	...	1816	
617	,,	,,	,,	(Grand)	...	1817	
618	,,	,,	,,	(Absey)	...	1817	
619	,,	,,	,,	(St. John)	...	1817	
620	,,	,,	,,	(Grand)	...	1818	
621	,,	,,	,,	(Absey)	...	1818	
622	,,	,,	,,	(St. John)	...	1818	
623	,,	,,	,,	(Grand)	...	1819	
624	,,	,,	,,	(Absey)	...	1819	
625	,,	,,	,,	(St. John)	...	1819	
626	,,	,,	,,	(Grand)	...	1820	
627	,,	,,	,,	(Absey)	...	1820	
628	,,	,,	,,	(St. John)	...	1820	
629	,,	,,	,,	(Grand)	...	1821	
630	,,	,,	,,	(Absey)	...	1821	
631	,,	,,	,,	(St. John)	...	1821	
632	,,	,,	,,	(Grand)	...	1822	66
633	,,	,,	,,	(Absey)	..	1822	
634	,,	,,	,,	(St. John)	...	1822	
635	,,	,,	,,	(Grand)	...	1823	
636	,,	,,	,,	(Absey)	...	1823	
637	,,	,,	,,	(St. John)	...	1823	
638	,,	,,	,,	(Grand)	...	1824	
639	,,	,,	,,	(Absey)	...	1824	
640	,,	,,	,,	(St. John)	...	1824	
641	,,	,,	,,	(Grand)	...	1825	
642	,,	,,	,,	(Absey)	...	1825	
643	,,	,,	,,	(St. John)	...	1825	
644	,,	,,	,,	(Grand)	...	1826	
645	,,	,,	,,	(Absey)	...	1826	
646	,,	,,	,,	(St. John)	...	1826	
647	,,	,,	,,	(Grand)	...	1827	

No.	Title or Nature of Record.	Year	Shelf.
648	Rate for relief of poor, highway, scavenger (Absey) ...	1827	66
649	,, ,, ,, (St. John) ...	1827	
650	,, ,, ,, (Grand) ...	1828	
651	,, ,, ,, (Absey) ...	1828	
652	,, ,, ,, (St. John) ...	1828	
653	,, ,, ,, (Grand) ...	1829	
654	,, ,, ,, (Absey) ...	1829	
655	,, ,, ,, (Knightsbridge)	1829	
656	,, ,, ,, (St. John) ...	1829	
657	,, ,, ,, (Grand) ...	1830	
658	,, ,, ,, (Absey) ...	1830	
659	,, ,, ,, (Knightsbridge)	1830	
660	,, ,, ,, (St. John) ...	1830	
661	,, ,, ,, (Grand) ...	1831	
662	,, ,, ,, (Absey) ...	1831	
663	,, ,, ,, (Knightsbridge)	1831	
664	,, ,, ,, (Part 1, St. John) ...	1831	
665	,, ,, ,, (Part 2, St. John) ...	1831	
666	,, ,, ,, (Grand) ...	1832	
667	,, ,, ,, (Absey) ...	1832	
668	,, ,, ,, (Knightsbridge)	1832	
669	,, ,, ,, (Part 1, St. John) ...	1832	
670	,, ,, ,, (Part 2, St. John) ...	1832	
671	,, ,, ,, (Grand) ...	1833	65
672	,, ,, ,, (Absey) ...	1833	
673	,, ,, ,, (Knightsbridge)	1833	
674	,, ,, ,, (Part 1, St. John) ...	1833	
675	,, ,, ,, (Part 2, St. John) ...	1833	
676	,, ,, ,, (Grand) ...	1834	
677	,, ,, ,, (Absey) ...	1834	
678	,, ,, ,, (Knightsbridge)	1834	
679	,, ,, ,, (Part 1, St. John) ...	1834	
680	,, ,, ,, (Part 2, St. John) ...	1834	
681	,, ,, ,, (Grand) ...	1835	
682	,, ,, ,, (Absey) ...	1835	
683	,, ,, ,, (Knightsbridge)	1835	
684	,, ,, ,, (Part 1, St. John) ...	1835	

No.	Title or Nature of Record.	Year.	Shelf.
685	Rate for relief of poor, highway, scavenger (Part 2, St. John)	1835	65
686	" " " (Grand) ...	1836	
687	" " " (Absey) ...	1836	
688	" " " (Knightsbridge)	1836	
689	" " " (Part 1, St. John) ...	1836	
690	" " " (Part 2, St. John) ...	1836	
691	" " " (Grand) ...	1837	
692	" " " (Absey) ...	1837	
693	" " " (Knightsbridge)	1837	
694	" " " (Part 1, St. John) ...	1837	
695	" " " (Part 2, St. John) ...	1837	
696	" " " (Grand) ...	1838	
697	" " " (Absey) ...	1838	
698	" " " (Knightsbridge)	1838	
699	" " " (Part 1, St. John) ...	1838	
700	" " " (Part 2, St. John) ...	1838	
701	" " " (Grand) ...	1839	
702	" " " (Absey) ...	1839	
703	" " " (St. John) ...	1839	
704	" " " (Grand) ...	1840	
705	" " " (Absey) ...	1840	
706	" " " (St. John) ...	1840	
707	" " " (Grand) ...	1841	
708	" " " (Absey) ...	1841	
709	" " " (St. John) ...	1841	
710	" " " (Grand) ...	1842	
711	" " " (Absey) ...	1842	
712	" " " (St. John) ...	1842	
713	" " " (Grand) ...	1843	64
714	" " " (Absey) ...	1843	
715	" " " (St. John) ...	1843	
716	" " " (Grand) ...	1844	
717	" " " (Absey) ...	1844	
718	" " " (St. John) ...	1844	
719	" " " (Grand) ...	1845	
720	" " " (Absey) ...	1845	
721	" " " (St. John) ...	1845	

No.	Title or Nature of Record.	Year.	Shelf.
722	Rate for relief of poor, highway, scavenger (whole parish) ...	1846	64
723	" " " " ...	1847	
724	Rate for relief of poor, repair of highways, and cleansing streets, (whole parish)	1848	
725	" " " " ...	1849	
726	" " " " ...	1850	
727	" " " " ...	1851	
728	" " " " ...	1852	
729	" " " " ...	1853	
730	" " " " ...	1854	
731	" " " " ...	1855	63
732	" " " " ...	1856	
733	" " " " ...	1857	
734	Rate for relief of poor (only)	1858	
735	" " "	1859	
736	" " "	1860	
737	" " "	1861	
738	" " "	1862	
739	" " "	1863	
740	" " "	1864	
741	" " "	1865	
742	" " "	1866	
743	" " "	1867	62
744	" " "	1868	
745	" " "	1869	
746	" " "	1870	
747	" " "	1871	
748	" " "	1872	
749	" " "	1873	
750	" " "	1874	
751	" " "	1875	
752	" " "	1876	
753	" " "	1877	
754	" " "	1878	61
755	" " "	1879	
756	" " "	1880	
757	" " "	1881	

No.	Title or Nature of Record.	Year.	Shelf.
758	Rate for relief of poor (only)	1882	61
759	" " "	1883	
760	" " "	1884	
761	" " "	1885	
762	" " "	1886	
763	" " "	1887	60
764	" " "	1888	
765	" " "	1889	
766	" " "	1890	
767, 768	Rate, Poor (two parts)	1891	
769, 770	" "	1892	
771, 772	" "	1893	59
773, 774	" "	1894	
775, 776	" "	1895	
777	Sewer and General Rate, and Special Rate over Crown Estate and Tothill Fields	1856	123
778	" " " " ...	1857	
779	" " " " ...	1858	
780	" " " " ...	1859	
781	" " " " ...	1860	
782	" " " " ...	1861	
783	" " " " ...	1862	
784	" " " " ...	1863	
785	" " " " ...	1864	
786	" " " " ...	1865	
787	" " " " ...	1866	
788	" " " " ...	1867	122
789	" " " " ...	1868	
790	" " " " ...	1869	
791	Sewer, Rate and Counter's Creek Sewer Rate	1857	
792	" " "	1858	
793	Main Drainage and Sewer Rate	1859	

Title Page of Churchwardens' Accounts, 1608-9.

[The Arms on the left are those of the "Upholders" or "Upholsters'" Company; on the right those of the Haberdashers' Company.]

The Accompt
of Thomas Bonde & Christopher
Bennell wardens and Repers
as aforesayd of the Parishe
Church of St Margarethin
westminster, from the Seven
and Twentith daye of maie
Anno Dni 1609 unto
the Nyneteenth Daye of
Maye, Anno Dni 1610
In the Eight yere of the
Raigne of our Soveraigne
Lord James by the grace
of God Kinge of England
ffraunce and Irelande
Defendor of the faithe &c
And of Scotlande the
Three and ffortith Beinge the Second yere of this Accompt

The Sayd Accomptants
doe charge themselves in the
Second yere with the Some of One
hundred three score thirteene poundes
Nineteene shillings fourepence halfe penny

clxxiii^l xix^s iiii^d ob.

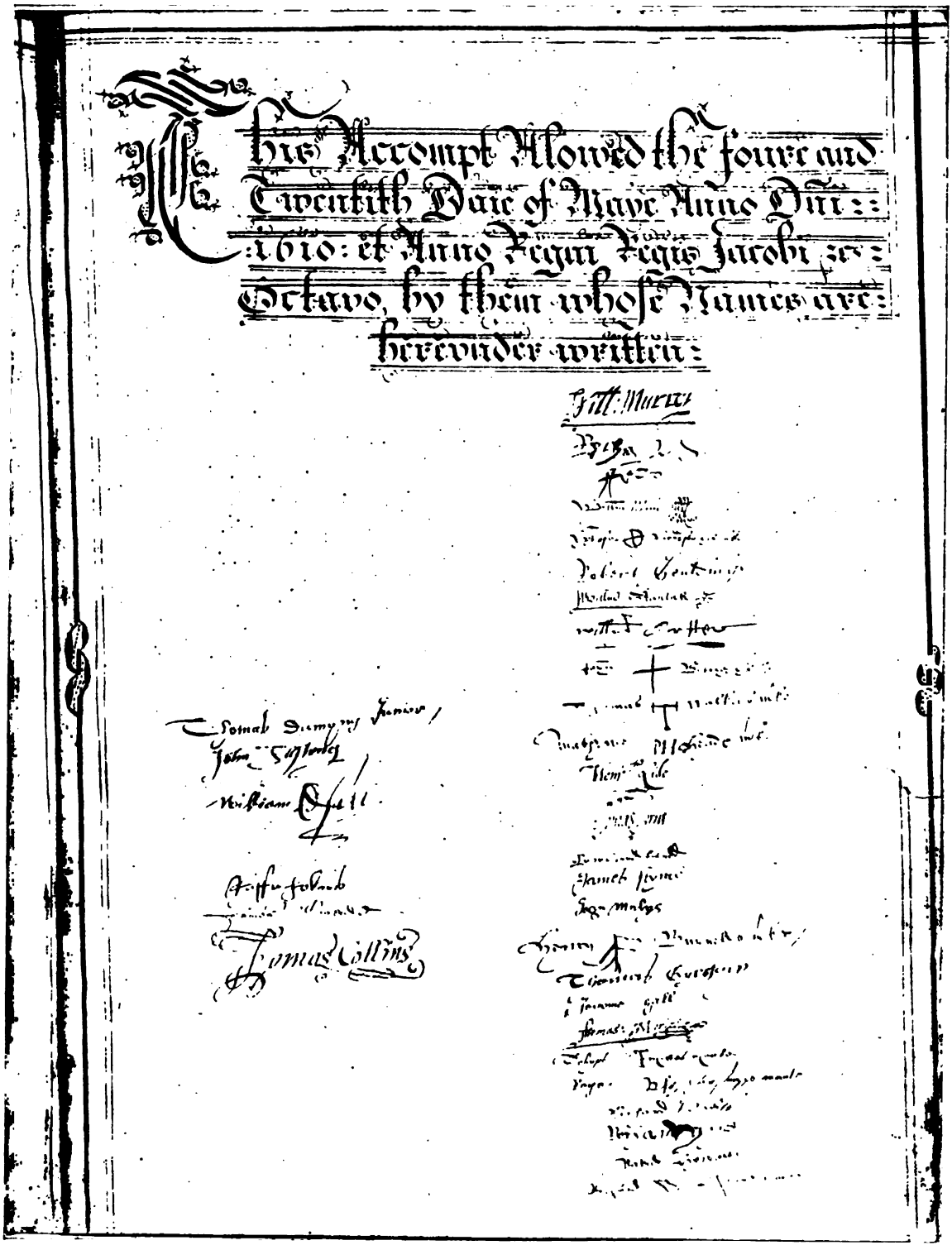
TITLE PAGE OF CHURCHWARDEN'S ACCOUNTS, 1609-10.

No.	Title or Nature of Record.	Year.	Shelf.
794	Main Drainage Rate	1859	122
795	" "	1860	
796	" "	1861	
797	" "	1862	
798	" "	1863	
799	" "	1864	121
800	" "	1865	
801	" "	1866	
802	" "	1867	
803	" "	1868	
804	Special Sewers Rate	1860	
805	Metropolitan Board of Works and Sewer Rates	1860	
806	" " "	1861	
807	" " "	1862	
808	" " "	1863	
809	" " "	1864	
810	" " "	1865	120
811	" " "	1866	
812	" " "	1867	
813	" " "	1868	
814	" " "	1869	
815	General Rate	1870	
816	" "	1871	
817	" "	1872	
818	General Rate (including Consolidated and Sewer Rate) ...	1873	
819	Consolidated Rate	1870	
820	" "	1871	
821	" "	1872	124
822	School Board Rate	1871	
823	General, Consolidated, School and Sewer Rates	1874	
824	" " " Library Rates	1875	
825	General Rate (including Consolidated, Sewers, School Board and Library)	1876	
826	" " " "	1877	
827	" " " "	1878	
828	" " " "	1879	
829	" " " "	1880	

No.	Title or Nature of Record.	Year.	Shelf.
830	General Rate (including Consolidated, Sewers and School Board)	1881	125
831	" " " "	1882	
832	" " " "	1883	
833	" " " "	1884	
834	" " " "	1885	
835	" " " "	1886	
836	" " " "	1887	
837	" " " "	1888	
838	" " " "	1889	126
839	" " " "	1890	
840, 841	" " " (two parts)	1891	
842, 843	" " " "	1892	
844, 845	" " " "	1893	
846, 847	" " " "	1894	127
848, 849	" " " "	1895	
850, 851	Highways Rate (two books)	1666	147
852, 853	" " "	1667	
854	" "	1668	
855	" "	1673	
856	" "	1674	
857	" "	1675	
858	" "	1676	
859	" "	1677	
860	" "	1678	
861	" "	1681	
862	" "	1682	
863	" "	1683	
864, 865	" " (two books)	1684	

No.	Title or Nature of Record.	Year.	Shelf.
866	Highways Rate	1685	147
867	" "	1686	
868	" "	1687	
869	" "	1688	
870	" "	1689	
871	" "	1690	
872	" "	1691	
873	" "	1693	
874	" "	1694	
875	" "	1695	
876	" "	1696	
877	" "	1697	
878	" "	1698	
879	" "	1701	
880	" "	1702	
881	" " (no caption)	1703	
882	" " "	1704	
883	" " "	1705	
884	" "	1705	
885, 886	" " (two books)	1706	
887, 888	" " "	1707	
889	" "	1708	
890	" "	1709	
891	" "	1710	
892	" "	1711	
893	" "	1712	
894	" "	1713	
895	" "	1714	
896	" "	1715	146
897	" "	1716	
898	" "	1718	
899	" "	1719	
900, 901, 902, 903	" " (four books)	1720	

No.	Title or Nature of Record.	Year.	Shelf.
904	Highways Rate	1721	146
905	„ „	1722	
906	„ „	1723	
907	„ „	1724	
908	„ „	1725	
909	„ „	1726	
910, 911, 912	„ „ (three books)	1727	
913	„ „ (St. Margaret)	1728	
914	„ „ (St. John)	1728	
915	„ „ (St. Margaret)	1729	
916	„ „ (St. John)	1729	
917	„ „ (St. Margaret)	1730	
918	„ „ (St. John)	1730	
919, 920	„ „ (two books, St. Margaret)	1731	
921	„ „ (St. John)	1731	
922	„ „ (St. Margaret and St. John)	1732	
923	„ „ (St. Margaret)	1732	
924	„ „ (St. John)	1732	
925	„ „ (St. Margaret and St. John)	1733	
926	„ „ (St. Margaret)	1733	
927	„ „ (St. Margaret and St. John)	1734	
928	„ „ (St. Margaret)	1734	
929	„ „ (St. Margaret and St. John)	1735	
930	„ „ (St. Margaret)	1735	
931	„ „ (St. Margaret and St. John)	1736	
932	„ „ „ „	1737	
933	„ „ „ „	1738	145
934	„ „ (St. Margaret)	1738	
935	„ „ (St. Margaret and St. John)	1739	
936, 937	„ „ (two books, St. Margaret)	1739	
938	„ „	1742	
939	Rate for repairing and amending highways (Absey)	1748	
940	„ „ „ (1st book, Grand)	1748	



This Accompt Alowed the foure and Twentith Daie of Maye Anno Dñi :: 1610: et Anno Regni Regis Jacobi &c: Octavo, by them whose Names are: hereunder written:

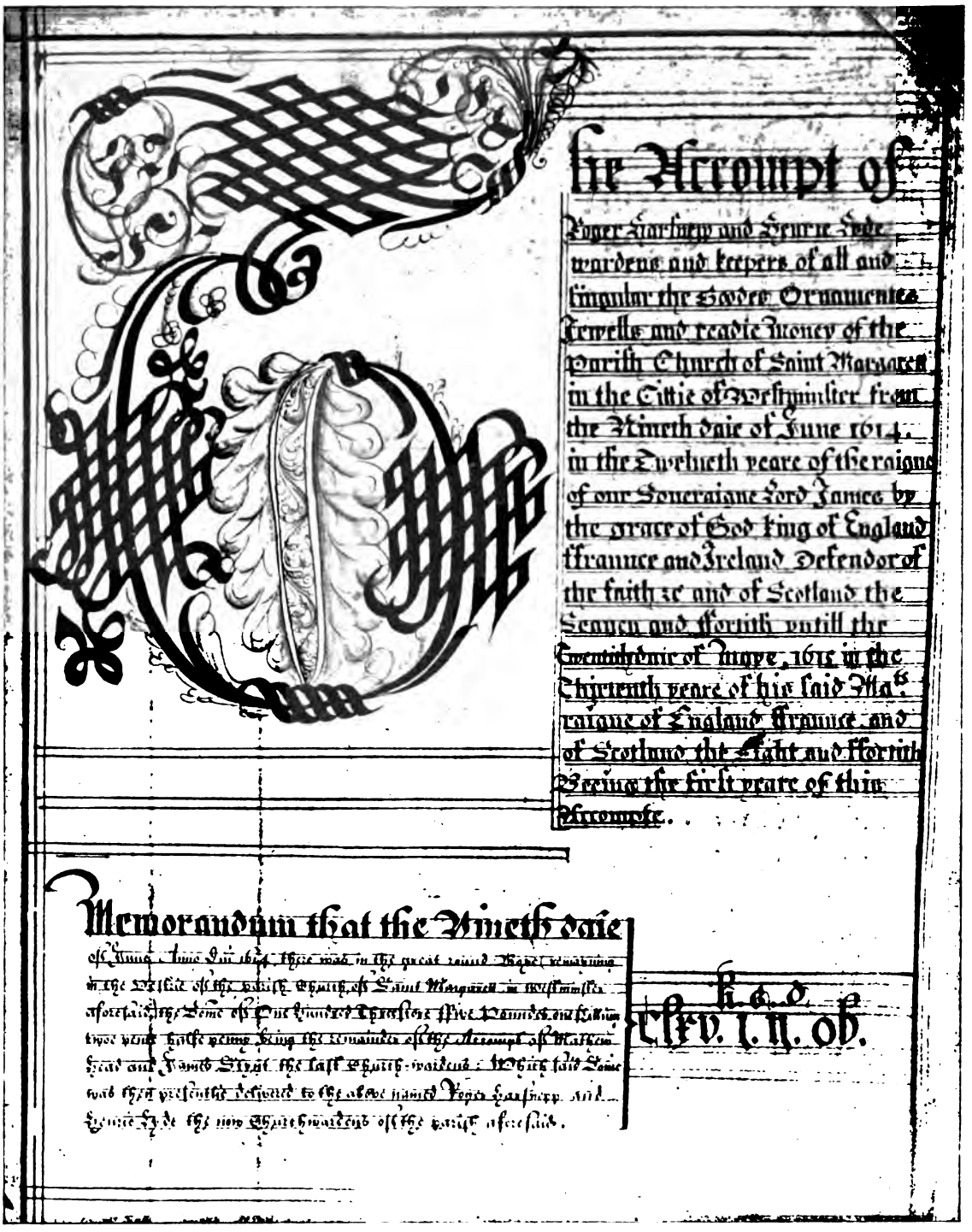
Gill: Murray

Thomas Collins

CERTIFICATE OF ALLOWANCE, CHURCHWARDENS' ACCOUNTS, 1610.

[Seven of the Auditors attested by their 'marks.']

12



The Accompt of
Roger Harsnepp and Henrie Lyde
wardens and keepers of all and
singular the Goodes Ornamentes
Jewells and readie Money of the
Parish Church of Saint Margarett
in the Cittie of Westminster from
the Nineth daie of June 1614.
in the Twelueth yeare of the raigne
of our Soueraigne Lord James by
the grace of God king of England
ffrannce and Ireland Defendor of
the faith &c and of Scotland the
Seauen and ffortith vntill the
Twentieth daie of Maye, 1615 in the
Thirteenth yeare of his said Ma^ts
raigne of England ffrannce and
of Scotland the Eight and ffortith
Beeing the first yeare of this
Accompte.

Memorandum that the Nineth daie
of June Anno Dni 1614 there was in the great round Rope remaining
in the Vestrie of the parish Church of Saint Margarett in Westminster
aforesaid the Some of One hundred Threestore fiue Pounds one Sillinge
twoe pence halfe penny being the remainder of the Accompt of Mathew
Head and James Stynt the last Church-wardens: Which said Some
was then presentlie delivered to the above named Roger Harsnepp and
Henrie Lyde the now Churchwardens of the parish aforesaid.

k. s. d.
clxv. i. ii. ob.

TITLE PAGE OF CHURCHWARDENS' ACCOUNTS, 1614-15.
(One of the finest specimens of quill penmanship in the collection.)

No.	Title or Nature of Record.	Year.	Shelf.
941	Rate for repairing and amending highways (two books, St.		
942	Margaret)	1749	145
943	„ „ „ (St. John) ...	1749	
944	Scavenger Rate	1728	
945	„ „	1729	
946	„ „	1730	
947	„ „	1731	
948	„ „	1732	
949	„ „	1733	
950	„ „	1734	
951	„ „	1735	
952	„ „	1736	
953	„ „	1737	
954	„ „	1738	
955	„ „	1739	
956	„ „	1740	
957	„ „	1741	
958	„ „	1742	
959	„ „	1743	
960	„ „ Petty France and Peter Street	1750	
961	Paving and lighting Rate	1782	144
962	„ „ „	1783	
963	„ „ „	1784	
964	„ „ „	1785	
965	„ „ „	1786	
966	„ „ „	1787	
967	„ „ „	1788	
968	„ „ „	1789	
969	„ „ „	1790	
970	„ „ „	1791	
971	„ „ „	1792	
972	„ „ „	1793	
973	„ „ „	1794	
974	„ „ „	1795	
975	„ „ „	1796	
976	„ „ „	1797	
977	„ „ „	1798	

No.	Title or Nature of Record.	Year.	Shelf.
978	Paving and lighting Rate	1799	144
979	" " "	1800	
980	" " "	1801	
981	" " "	1802	
982	" " "	1803	
983	" " "	1804	
984	" " "	1805	
985	" " "	1806	
986	" " "	1807	
987	" " "	1808	
988	" " "	1809	
989	" " "	1810	
990	" " "	1811	
991	" " "	1812	
992	" " "	1813	
993	" " "	1814	
994	" " "	1815	
995	" " "	1816	
996	" " "	1817	
997	" " "	1818	
998	" " "	1819	
999	" " "	1820	
1000	" " "	1821 to 1824	151
1001	" " "	1825	
1002	" " "	1826	
1003	" " "	1827	
1004	" " "	1828	
1005	" " "	1829	
1006	" " "	1830	
1007	" " "	1831	
1008	" " "	1832	
1009	" " "	1833	
1010	" " "	1834	
1011	" " "	1835	
1012	" " "	1836	
1013	" " "	1837	
1014	" " "	1838	

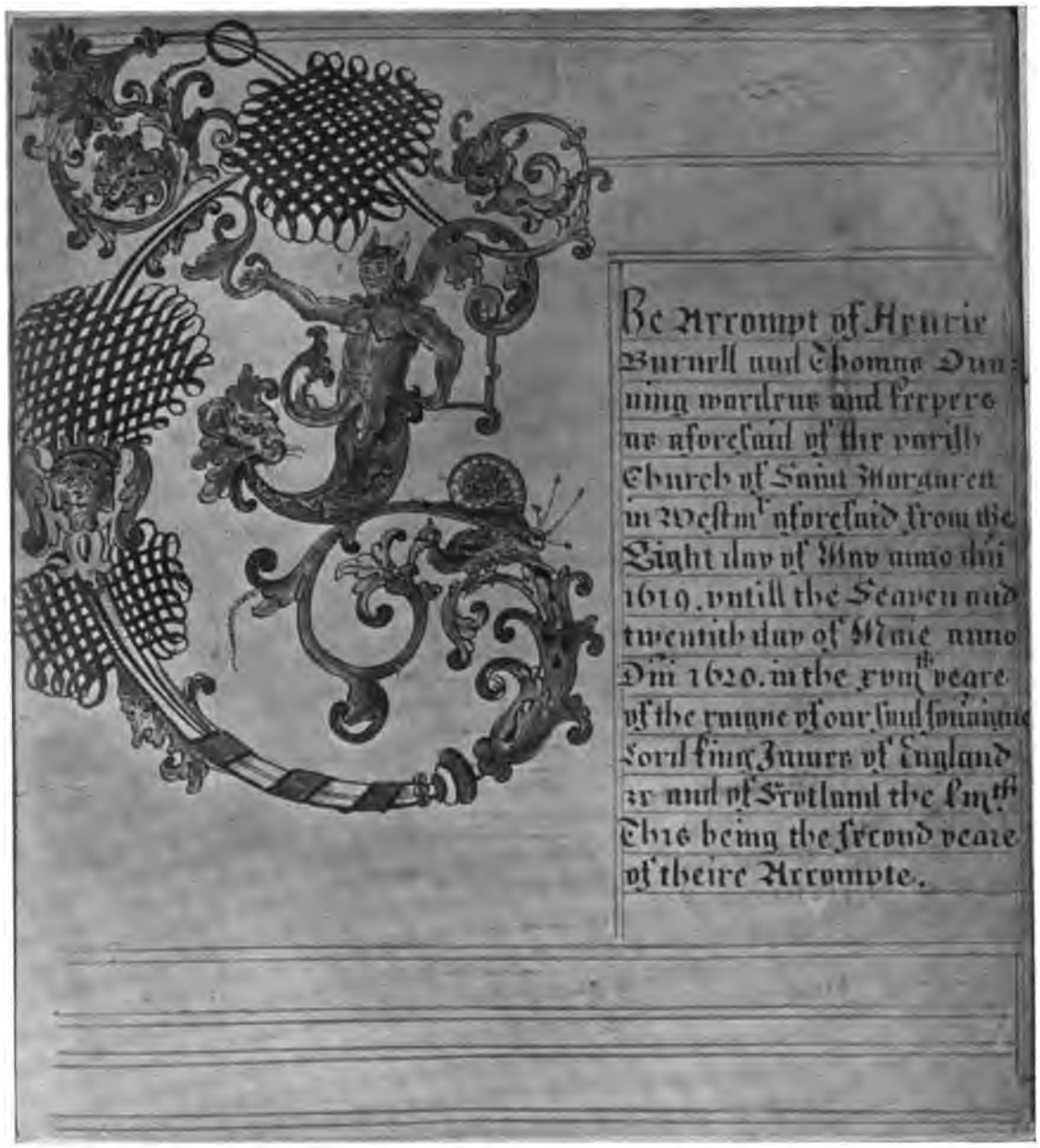
The Accompt of Henry Burnell and Thomas Dunnyng wardens & keepers of all the Goodes Ornamentes and other thinges of the vnto Church of Saint Margarett in the Cittie of Weltminster from the Sixteenth daie of May 1618. in the Sixteenth yeare of the raigne of our Soueraigne Lord King James of England ffrance & Ireland and of Scotland the one and ffiftith. vntill the eighte day of May following in the Seaventeenth yeare of his said Maieltics raigne of England ffrance and Ireland and of Scotland the two and ffiftith: being the first yeare of this Accompt

Memorandum that the one and twentith day of Maie anno Dni 1618 there was in the great round Bore remaining in the Vestrie of the parish Church of St Margarett in Westminster aforesaid, the Some of One hundred Thirtie fowrs Pounds ameleene shillings ten pence halfe penny, being the remainder of the Accompte of Peter Heywood and Thomas Florice the last Churchwardens: Which said Some was then presentlie delivered to the above named Henrie Burnell and Thomas Dunnyng the new Churchwardens of ye parish aforesaid.

Cxxxiiij. xix. x. ob

TITLE PAGE OF CHURCHWARDENS' ACCOUNTS, 1618-19.

Arms (on the left) of the Pewterers' Company and (on the right) of the Cordwainers' Company. Original initial letter coloured.



The Accompt of Henrie
Burnell and Thomas Dun-
ning wardens and keepers
as aforesaid of the parish
Church of Saint Margaret
in Westm^r aforesaid from the
Eight day of May anno dñi
1619. vntill the Seaven and
twentith day of Maie anno
Dñi 1620. in the xvm^th veare
of the raigne of our said soueraigne
Lord king James of England
&c and of Scotland the lm^th
This being the second veare
of theire Accompte.

TITLE PAGE OF CHURCHWARDENS' ACCOUNTS, 1619-20.

No	Title or Nature of Record.	Year.	Shelf.
1015	Paving and lighting Rate	1839	151
1016	" " "	1840	
1017	" " "	1841	
1018	" " "	1842	
1019	" " "	1843	
1020	" " "	1844	
1021	" " "	1845	
1022	" " "	1846	
1023	" " "	1847	
1024, 1025	" " " (two books)	1848	
1026	" " "	1849	
1027, 1028	" " " "	1850	
1029, 1030	" " " "	1851	
1031	Paving Rate	1771	148
1032	" "	1772	
1033	" "	1773	
1034	" "	1774	
1035	" "	1775	
1036	" "	1776	
1037	" "	1777	
1038	" "	1778	
1039	" "	1779	
1040	" "	1780	
1041	" "	1781	
1042	" "	1782	
1043	" "	1783	
1044	" "	1784	
1045	" "	1785	
1046	" "	1786	
1047	" "	1787	
1048	" "	1788	
1049	" "	1789	
1050	" "	1790	
1051	" "	1791	

No.	Title or Nature of Record.	Year.	Shelf.
1052	Paving Rate	1792	148
1053	,, ,, ...	1793	
1054	,, ,, ...	1794	
1055	,, ,, ...	1795	
1056	,, ,, ...	1796	
1057	,, ,, ...	1797	
1058	,, ,, ...	1798	
1059	,, ,, ...	1799	
1060	,, ,, ...	1800	
1061	,, ,, ...	1801	
1062	,, ,, ...	1802	
1063	,, ,, ...	1804	
1064	,, ,, ...	1805	
1065	,, ,, ...	1806	
1066	,, ,, ...	1807	
1067	,, ,, ...	1808	
1068	,, ,, ...	1809	
1069	,, ,, ...	1810	
1070	,, ,, ...	1811	
1071	,, ,, ...	1812	
1072	,, ,, ...	1813	149
1073	,, ,, ...	1814	
1074	,, ,, ...	1815	
1075	,, ,, ...	1816	
1076	,, ,, ...	1817	
1077	,, ,, ...	1818	
1078	,, ,, ...	1819	
1079, 1080	,, ,, (two books)	1820	
1081	,, ,, ...	1821	
1082	,, ,, ...	1822	
1083	,, ,, ...	1823	
1084	,, ,, ...	1824	
1085	,, ,, ...	1825	
1086	,, ,, ...	1826	
1087	,, ,, ...	1827	
1088	,, ,, ...	1828	

No.	Title or Nature of Record.	Year.	Shelf.
1089	Paving Rate	1829	149
1090	" "	1830	
1091	" "	1831	
1092	" "	1832	
1093	" "	1833	
1094	" "	1834	
1095	" "	1835	
1096, 1097	" " (two books)	1836	
1098, 1099	" " "	1837	
1100, 1101	" " "	1838	
1102, 1103	" " "	1839	
1104, 1105	" " "	1840	
1106, 1107	" " "	1841	
1108, 1109	" " "	1842	
1110, 1111	" " "	1843	
1112, 1113, 1114	" " (three books)	1844	
1115, 1116, 1117	" " "	1845	
1118, 1119, 1120	" " "	1846	
1121, 1122, 1123	" " "	1847	
1124, 1125, 1126	" " "	1848	

No.	Title or Nature of Record.	Year.	Shelf.
1127, 1128	Paving Rate (two books)	1849	149
1129, 1130	" " "	1850	150
1131, 1132	" " "	1851	
1133	" " (St. Margaret)	1852	
1134	" " (Knightsbridge)	1852	
1135	" " (St. John)	1852	
1136	" " (St. Margaret)	1853	
1137	" " (Knightsbridge)	1853	
1138	" " (St. John)	1853	
1139	" " (St. Margaret)	1854	
1140	" " (Knightsbridge)	1854	
1141	" " (St. John)	1854	
1142, 1143	" " "Copies" (two books)	1836	
1144, 1145	" " " "	1837	
1146, 1147	" " " "	1838	
1148, 1149	" " " "	1839	
1150, 1151	" " " "	1841	
1152, 1153	" " " "	1842	
1154, 1155	" " " "	1843	
1156	Paving Rate (Collectors' Accounts; unbound) ...	1771 to 1788	
1157	" " " ...	1789 to 1806	
1158	" " " ...	1808 to 1820	
1159	Water Rate (Collectors' Accounts; unbound) ...	1840 to 1854	
1160	Paving Rate, securities granted by Committee for, (Bonds Register)	1820	
1161	Paving Account, 6d. Rate	1792	
1162	" " 1s. Rate	1797	

No.	Title or Nature of Record.			Year.	Shelf.
1163	Watch	Rate	(ledger)	1736	171
1164	"	"	"	1737	
1165	"	"	"	1738	
1166	"	"	"	1739	
1167	"	"	(1st book)	1739	
1168	"	"	(2nd book)	1739	
1169	"	"	(3rd book)	1739	
1170	"	"	(ledger)	1740	
1171	"	"	"	1741	
1172	"	"	"	1742	
1173	"	"	"	1743	
1174	"	"	"	1744	
1175	"	"	(St. John)	1744	
1176	"	"	(ledger)	1745	
1177	"	"	(1st book)	1745	
1178	"	"	(ledger)	1746	
1179	"	"	"	1747	
1180	"	"	"	1748	
1181	"	"	(1st book)	1749	
1182	"	"	(2nd book)	1749	
1183	"	"	(Knightsbridge)	1752	
1184	"	"	(Grand)	1759	
1185	"	"	(Absey)	1759	
1186	"	"	(Grand)	1760	
1187	"	"	(Absey)	1760	
1188	"	"	(Grand)	1761	
1189	"	"	(Absey)	1761	
1190	"	"	(St. John)	1761	
1191	"	"	(Grand)	1762	
1192	"	"	(Absey)	1762	
1193	"	"	(Grand)	1763	
1194	"	"	(Absey)	1763	
1195	"	"	(St. John)	1763	
1196	"	"	(Grand)	1764	
1197	"	"	(Absey)	1764	
1198	"	"	(St. John)	1764	
1199	"	"	(Grand)	1765	

No.	Title or Nature of Record.	Year.	Shelf.
1200	Watch Rate, (Absey)	1765	171
1201	„ „ (St. John)	1765	
1202	„ „ (Grand)	1766	
1203	„ „ (Absey)	1766	
1204	„ „ (St. John)	1766	
1205	„ „ (Grand)	1767	170
1206	„ „ (Absey)	1767	
1207	„ „ (St. John)	1767	
1208	„ „ (Grand)	1768	
1209	„ „ (Absey)	1768	
1210	„ „ (St. John)	1768	
1211	„ „ (Grand)	1769	
1212	„ „ (Absey)	1769	
1213	„ „ (St. John)	1769	
1214	„ „ (ledger)	1769	
1215	„ „ (Absey)	1770	
1216	„ „ (St. John)	1770	
1217	„ „ (Grand)	1771	
1218	„ „ (Absey)	1771	
1219	„ „ (St. John)	1771	
1220	„ „ (Grand)	1772	
1221	„ „ (Absey)	1772	
1222	„ „ (St. John)	1772	
1223	„ „ (Grand)	1773	
1224	„ „ (Absey)	1773	
1225	„ „ (St. John)	1773	
1226	„ „ (Grand)	1774	
1227	„ „ (Absey)	1774	
1228	„ „ (St. John)	1774	
1229	„ „ (Grand)	1775	
1230	„ „ (Absey)	1775	
1231	„ „ (St. John)	1775	
1232	„ „ (Grand)	1776	
1233	„ „ (Absey)	1776	
1234	„ „ (St. John)	1776	
1235	„ „ (Grand)	1777	
1236	„ „ (Absey)	1777	

No.	Title or Nature of Record.	Year.	Shelf.
1237	Watch Rate (St. John)	1777	170
1238	„ „ (Grand)	1778	
1239	„ „ (Absey)	1778	
1240	„ „ (St. John)	1778	
1241	„ „ (Grand)	1779	
1242	„ „ (Absey)	1779	
1243	„ „ (St. John)	1779	
1244	„ „ (Grand)	1780	169
1245	„ „ (Absey)	1780	
1246	„ „ (St. John)	1780	
1247	„ „ (Grand)	1781	
1248	„ „ (Absey)	1781	
1249	„ „ (St. John)	1781	
1250	„ „ (Grand)	1782	
1251	„ „ (Absey)	1782	
1252	„ „ (St. John)	1782	
1253	„ „ (Grand)	1783	
1254	„ „ (Absey)	1783	
1255	„ „ (St. John)	1783	
1256	„ „ (Grand)	1784	
1257	„ „ (Absey)	1784	
1258	„ „ (St. John)	1784	
1259	„ „ (Grand)	1785	
1260	„ „ (Absey)	1785	
1261	„ „ (St. John)	1785	
1262	„ „ (Grand)	1786	
1263	„ „ (Absey)	1786	
1264	„ „ (St. John)	1786	
1265	Watch Rate, also called "Patrol Rate" (Grand) ...	1786	
1266	„ „ „ (Absey) ...	1786	
1267	„ „ „ (St. John) ...	1786	
1268	„ „ „ (Grand and Absey)	1786	
1269	„ „ „ (Grand) ...	1787	
1270	„ „ „ (St. John) ...	1787	
1271	„ „ „ (Grand) ...	1788	
1272	„ „ „ (Absey) ...	1788	
1273	„ „ „ (St. John) ...	1788	

No.	Title or Nature of Record.	Year.	Shelf.
1274	Watch Rate, also called "Patrol Rate" (Grand) ...	1789	169
1275	" " " (Absey) ...	1789	
1276	" " " (St. John) ...	1789	
1277	Rate for relief of poor and nightly watch, "Arrears" (Absey)	1801	
1278, 1279	" " " (Grand) 2 books	1802	
1280	" " " (Absey) ...	1802	
1281	" " " (St. John) ...	1802	
1282	" " " (Grand) ...	1804	
1283	" " " (Absey) ...	1804	
1284	" " " (St. John) ...	1804	
1285	" " " (Grand) ...	1805	
1286	" " " (Absey) ...	1805	
1287	" " " (St. John) ...	1805	
1288	" " " (Grand) ...	1806	168
1289	" " " (Absey) ...	1806	
1290	" " " (St. John) ...	1806	
1291	" " " (Grand) ...	1807	
1292	" " " (Absey) ...	1807	
1293	" " " (St. John) ...	1807	
1294	" " " (Grand) ...	1808	
1295	" " " (Absey) ...	1808	
1296	" " " (St. John) ...	1808	
1297	" " " (Grand) ...	1809	
1298	" " " (Absey) ...	1809	
1299	" " " (St. John) ...	1809	
1300	" " " (Grand) ...	1810	
1301	" " " (Absey) ...	1810	
1302	" " " (St. John) ...	1810	
1303	" " " (Grand) ...	1811	
1304	" " " (Absey) ...	1811	
1305	" " " (St. John) ...	1811	
1306	" " " (Grand) ...	1812	
1307	" " " (Absey) ...	1812	
1308	" " " (St. John) ...	1812	
1309	" " " (Grand) ...	1813	
1310	" " " (Absey) ...	1813	

No.	Title or Nature of Record.	Year.	Shelf.
1311	Rate for relief of poor and nightly watch, "Arrears" (St. John)	1813	168
1312	" " " (Grand) ...	1814	
1313	" " " (Absey) ...	1814	
1314	" " " (St. John) ...	1814	
1315	" " " (Grand) ...	1815	
1316	" " " (Absey) ...	1815	
1317	" " " (St. John) ...	1815	
1318	" " " (Grand) ...	1816	
1319	" " " (Absey) ...	1816	
1320	" " " (St. John) ...	1816	
1321	" " " (Grand) ...	1817	
1322	" " " (Absey) ...	1817	
1323	" " " (St. John) ...	1817	
1324	" " " (Grand) ...	1818	
1325	" " " (Absey) ...	1818	
1326	" " " (St. John) ...	1818	
1327	" " " (Grand) ...	1819	
1328	" " " (Absey) ...	1819	
1329	" " " (St. John) ...	1819	
1330	" " " (Grand) ...	1820	
1331	" " " (Absey) ...	1820	
1332	" " " (St. John) ...	1820	
1333, 1334	" " " (Grand) 2 books ...	1821	
1335	" " " (Absey) ...	1821	
1336	" " " (St. John) ...	1821	
1337	" " " (Grand) ...	1822	
1338	" " " (Absey) ...	1822	
1339	" " " (St. John) ...	1822	
1340	" " " (Grand) ...	1823	
1341	" " " (Absey) ...	1823	
1342	" " " (St. John) ...	1823	
1343	" " " (Grand) ...	1824	
1344	" " " (Absey) ...	1824	
1345	" " " (St. John) ...	1824	
1346	" " " (Grand) ...	1825	
1347	" " " (Absey) ...	1825	

No.	Title or Nature of Record.	Year.	Shelf.
1348	Rate for relief of poor and nightly watch, "Arrears" (St. John)	1825	168
1349	" " " (Grand) ...	1826	
1350	" " " (Absey) ...	1826	
1351	" " " (St. John) ...	1826	
1352	" " " (Grand) ...	1827	
1353	" " " (Absey) ...	1827	
1354	" " " (St. John) ...	1827	
1355	" " " (Grand) ...	1828	
1356	" " " (Absey) ...	1828	
1357	" " " (St. John) ...	1828	
1358, 1359	" " " (Grand) 2 books ..	1829	
1360, 1361	" " " (Absey) 2 books ...	1829	
1362, 1363	" " " (St. John) 2 books	1829	
1364	" " " (St. John) ...	No date.	
1365	Library Rate	1856	108
1366	" "	1857-8	
1367	" "	1858-9	
1368	" "	1860	
1369	" "	1861	
1370	" "	1862	
1371	" "	1863	
1372	" "	1864	
1373	" "	1865	
1374	" "	1866	
1375	" "	1867	
1376	" "	1869	109
1377	" "	1870	
1378	" "	1871	
1379	Library Rate, including School Board	1873	
1380	Library Rate	1874	
1381	Rector's Rate (St. John)	1739	164
1382	" " "	1742	
1383	" " "	1746	
1384	" " "	1747	

The Accompte of Peter Heywood and Thomas Morice wardens and keepers of all the Good Ornamentes and other things of the parish church of Saint Margarett in the Cittie of Westminster from the Eleaventh day of May 1616 in the fowertenth yeare of the raigne of our Soucraine Lord King James of England france and Ireland and of Scotland the Nyne & Fortith vntill the one and thirtith daie of May in the fifteenth yeare of his said maiesties raigne of England ffraunce and Ireland and of Scotland the fiftith: Being the first yeare of this theire Accompte.

Memorandum that the Sixteenth day of Maie anno Dni 1616, there was in the great round Boye remaining in the Vestrie of the parish Church of St Margarett in Westminster aforesaid, the Some of Twoe hundred threescore one Pounds, thirteen shillinges twoe pence halfe penny, being the remainder of the Accompt of Roger Harsnepp and Henrie Lyde the last Churchwardens: Which said Some was then pntlie delivered to the above named Peter Heywood and Thomas Morice the now Churchwardens of the parish aforesaid

ccclxi.xiii.ii.ob.

TITLE PAGE OF CHURCHWARDENS' ACCOUNTS, 1616-17.

No.	Title or Nature of Record.	Year.	Shelf.
1385	Rector's Rate (St. John)	1748	164
1386	" " "	1749	
1387	" " "	1750	
1388	" " "	1751	
1389	" " "	1752	
1390	" " "	1753	
1391	" " "	1754	
1392	" " "	1757	
1393	" " "	1758	
1394	" " "	1759	
1395	" " "	1760	
1396	" " "	1761	
1397	" " "	1762	
1398	" " "	1763	
1399	" " "	1764	
1400	" " "	1765	
1401	" " "	1766	
1402	" " "	1767	
1403	" " "	1768	
1404	" " "	1769	
1405	" " "	1770	
1406	" " "	1771	
1407	" " "	1772	
1408	" " "	1773	
1409	" " "	1774	
1410	" " "	1775	
1411	" " "	1776	
1412	" " "	1777	
1413	" " "	1778	
1414	" " "	1779	
1415	" " "	1780	
1416	" " "	1781	
1417	" " "	1782	
1418	" " "	1783	
1419	" " "	1784	
1420	" " "	1785	
1421	" " "	1786	

No.	Title or Nature of Record.	Year.	Shelf.
1422	Rector's Rate (St. John)	1787	164
1423	" " "	1788	
1424	" " "	1789	
1425	" " "	1791	165
1426	" " "	1792	
1427	" " "	1793	
1428	" " "	1794	
1429	" " "	1795	
1430	" " "	1796	
1431	" " "	1797	
1432	" " "	1798	
1433	" " "	1799	
1434	" " "	1800	
1435	" " "	1801	
1436	" " "	1802	
1437	" " "	1803	
1438	" " "	1804	
1439	" " "	1805	
1440	" " "	1806	
1441	" " "	1807	
1442	" " "	1808	
1443	" " "	1809	
1444	" " "	1810	
1445	" " "	1811	
1446	" " "	1812	
1447	" " "	1813	
1448	" " "	1814	
1449	" " "	1815	
1450	" " "	1816	
1451	" " "	1817	
1452	" " "	1818	
1453	" " "	1819	
1454	" " "	1820	
1455	" " "	1821	
1456	" " "	1822	
1457	" " "	1823	
1458	" " "	1824	

No.	Title or Nature of Record.	Year.	Shelf.
1459	Rector's Rate (St. John)	1825	165
1460	" " "	1826	166
1461	" " "	1827	
1462	" " "	1828	
1463	" " "	1829	
1464	" " "	1830	
1465	" " "	1831	
1466	" " "	1833	
1467	" " "	1834	
1468	" " "	1835	
1469	" " "	1836	
1470	" " "	1837	
1471	" " "	1838	
1472	" " "	1841	
1473	" " "	1842	
1474	" " "	1844	
1475	" " "	1845	
1476	" " "	1846	
1477	" " "	1848	
1478	" " "	1849	
1479	" " "	1850	
1480	" " "	1851	
1481	" " "	1852	
1482	" " "	1853	
1483	" " "	1854	
1484	" " "	1855	
1485	" " "	1856	
1486	" " "	1857	
1487	" " "	1858	
1488	" " "	1859	
1489	" " "	1860	
1490	" " "	1861	
1491	" " "	1862	
1492	" " "	1863	167
1493	" " "	1864	
1494	" " "	1865	
1495	" " "	1866	

No.	Title or Nature of Record.	Year.	Shelf
1496	Rector's Rate (St. John)	1867	167
1497	" " "	1868	
1498	" " "	1869	
1499	" " "	1870	
1500	" " "	1871	
1501	" " "	1872	
1502	" " "	1873	
1503	" " "	1874	
1504	" " "	1875	
1505	" " "	1876	
1506	" " "	1877	
1507	" " "	1878	
1508	" " "	1879	
1509	" " "	1880	
1510	" " "	1881	
1511	" " "	1882	
1512	" " "	1883-4-5	
1513	Church Rate, for repairing St. John's Church (Grand) ...	1815	160
1514	" " " (Absey) ..	1815	
1515	" " " (St. John) ...	1815	
1516	Church Rate, for repairing St. John's Church and rebuilding fences of St. Margaret's Burial Ground (Grand) ...	1818	
1517	" " " (Absey) ...	1818	
1518	" " " (St. John) ...	1818	
1519	" " " (Grand) ...	1819	
1520	" " " (Absey) ...	1819	
1521	" " " (St. John) ...	1819	
1522	Church Rate, for the repair of "any Church" in the parish (Grand)	1822	
1523	" " " (Absey) ...	1822	
1524	" " " (St. John) ...	1822	
1525	" " " (Grand) ...	1823	
1526	" " " (Absey) ...	1823	
1527	" " " (St. John) ...	1823	
1528	" " " (Grand) ...	1824	
1529	" " " (Absey) ...	1824	
1530	" " " (St. John) ...	1824	

Title Page of Churchwardens' Accounts, 1617-18.

AUDITORS' ALLOWANCE OF CHURCHWARDENS' ACCOUNTS, 1618.
[Eight of the Auditors attest by their 'marks.']

No.	Title or Nature of Record.	Year.	Shelf.
1531	Church Rate, for the repair of "any Church" in the parish (Grand)	1825	160
1532	" " " (Absey) ...	1825	
1533	" " " (St. John) ...	1825	
1534	" " " (Grand) ...	1826	
1535	" " " (Absey) ...	1826	
1536	" " " (St. John) ...	1826	
1537	" " " (Grand) ...	1827	
1538	" " " (Absey) ...	1827	
1539	" " " (St. John) ...	1827	
1540	" " " (Grand) ...	1828	
1541	" " " (Absey) ...	1828	
1542	" " " (St. John) ...	1828	
1543	" " " (Grand) ...	1829	
1544	" " " (Absey) ...	1829	
1545	" " " (Knightsbridge) ...	1829	
1546	" " " (St. John) ...	1829	
1547	" " " no caption or allowance (Grand) ...	1830	
1548	" " " (Absey) ...	1830	
1549	" " " (Knightsbridge) ...	1830	
1550	" " " (St. John) ...	1830	
1551	Rate for repayment of loan borrowed on Church Rate, and Church Rate (Grand)	1831	
1552	" " " (Absey) ...	1831	
1553	" " " (Knightsbridge) ...	1831	
1554	" " " 1st part (St. John)	1831	
1555	" " " 2nd " " ...	1831	
1556	" " " (Grand) ...	1832	
1557	" " " (Absey) ...	1832	
1558	" " " (Knightsbridge) ...	1832	
1559	" " " 1st part (St. John)	1832	
1560	" " " 2nd " " ...	1832	
1561	Church Rate, for repair of St. John's Church (St. Margaret)	1846	
1562	" " " (St. John) ...	1846	
1563	Church Rate, Petty Sessions List of defaulters (Grand) ...	1834	
1564	" " " (Absey) ...	1834	
1565	" " " (St. John) ...	1834	

No.	Title or Nature of Record.	Year.	Shelf.
1566 1567 1568 1569	Burial Act, Collectors' Books (4)	No date.	160
1570	Collections on Briefs in St. Margaret's Church. ...	1648 to 1694	
1571	Collections on Briefs in Christ Church.	1707 to 1813	
1572	Collections in St. Margaret's Church for use of poor children of Grey Coat Hospital	1698 to 1768	
1573	Collections on Briefs in St. Margaret's Church, and from house to house	1694 to 1731	

[Nos. 1570, 1571, 1573, and 1575 are "Registers of Briefs" laid in the parish between 1644 and 1793. The collection of money by "Briefs," which were simply licenses to beg, was customary long before the Reformation—

When priests, with bulls and briefs, and shaven crowns,
And griping fists, and unrelenting frowns,
Legates and delegates, with powers from hell,
Though heavenly in pretension, fleeced thee well;
And to this hour, to keep it fresh in mind
Some twigs of that old scourge are left behind.

COWPER.

They were known as "Church Briefs," "Fire Briefs," "Walking Briefs," and "Parish Briefs," and gave rise to a variety of abuses, which Shenstone, Dryden, Herrick, Cowper, Churchill, and other contemporary writers denounced. The subject is exhaustively dealt with by Mr. W. A. Bewes, in his volume on *Church Briefs* (1896); and these Registers are fully examined in *Bygone Briefs*, by the present writer (1896), to whose essay on the system generally is appended a schedule of 1021 briefs laid in this parish, with the object of and amount raised on each, between 1644 and 1793. The utility of the machinery is shown by the fact that as much as £868 was at one time raised in this parish by its means (see note on page 73), while the popular disfavour with which it was regarded for upwards of a century is shown by the fact that in the majority of cases the sums realised were less than £1. Herrick (*circa* 1650) wrote:—

Cuffe comes to church much; but keeps his bed
Those Sundayes onely whenas briefs are read.
This makes Cuffe dull; and troubles him the most,
Because he cannot sleep i' th' Church free-cost.

Hesperides.

The inimitable Pepys, ten years later, notes in his Diary:—

30 *June*, 1661 (Lord's Day).—To church, where we observed the trade of briefs is now come up to so constant a course every Sunday, that we resolve to give no more.

And Churchill, who wrote a hundred years later, ridiculed the exaggerated claims so often put forward by them:—

Now, to the wonder of all people,
A church is left without a steeple;
A steeple now is left in lurch
And mourns departure of its church,

Which, borne on wings of mighty wind,
Removed a furlong off we find;
Now, wrath on cattle to discharge,
Hailstones as deadly fall, and large,
As those which were on Egypt sent.
The Ghost.

Notwithstanding the indifference and repeated attempts to reform the system, it was not abolished until 1829, although "King's Letters" and "Queen's Letters" continued to be issued on urgent occasions down to 1842. Lord Palmerston declined to sanction a revival of it in 1854; but Letters Patent for a collection in aid of the South African War Relief Fund were issued by Her Majesty so recently as 16th December last.]

No.	Title or Nature of Record.	Year.	Shelf.
1574	Church Fund, St. Margaret's Church subscription book (original signatures)	1874	160
1575	Collections on Briefs for redemption of Christian slaves and captives in Turkey	1670	
1576	Marriages, Banns of	1860 to 1865	
1577	Church Rate, Collector's pocket copy (Grand)	No date.	
1578	" " " (Absey)	No date.	
1579	" " " (St. John)	No date.	
1580	Assessment for the Army, No. 1	1645	106
1581	" " " (in Ireland), No. 4	1647	
1582	Army Rate (assessment marked), No. 5	1647	
1583	" " " " 6	1648	
1584	" " " " 7	1648	
1585	" " " " 8	1649	
1586	" " " " 9	1649	
1587	" " " " 10	1649	
1588	" " " " 11	1649	
1589	" " " " 12	1650	
1590	" " " " 13	1650	
1591	" " " " 14	1650	
1592	" " " " 15	1650	
1593	" " " " 16	1651	
1594	" " " " 17	1651	
1595	" " " " 18	1651	
1596	" " " " 19	1652	
1597	" " " " 20	1652	
1598	" " " " 21	1652	
1599	" " " " 22	1652	
1600	" " " " 23	1653	

No.	Title or Nature of Record.	Year.	Shelf.
1601	Army Rate (assessment marked), No. 24	1653	106
1602	" " " " 26	1653	
1603	" " " " 27	1654	
1604	" " " " 28	1654	
1605	" " " not numbered	1654	
1606	" " " No. 31	1655	
1607	" " " "Scottish Army"	1644	
1608, 1609	Rate, "Royal Aids" (2 books)	1665	
1610, 1611	" " "	1666	
1612, 1613, 1614, 1615	" " (4 books)	No date.	
1616	Army Rate	1667	
1617	Rate for Bounties paid to Volunteers in Navy (St. John) ...	1795	
1618	" " " (Absey) ...	1795	
1619	" " " (Absey) ...	1803	
1620	Rate for defraying expense of hand engine, etc	1709	
1621	An Assessment upon St. Margaret's of 2 first and 4 entire subsidies granted to King Charles the Second in Parliament, 1661	1663	
1622	A Tax Book (unbound; caption missing)	1750	
1623	Assessment on St. Margaret's for grant to His Majesty (missing)	1667	
1624	Assessment on St. Margaret's for relief of Ireland	1647	
1625	Rate, for reimbursing monies paid as bounties for raising additional force to serve as Volunteers (Absey) ...	1803	
1626	" " " (St. John) ...	1803	
1627	Rate in default of raising additional forces (St. John) ...	1805	
1628	" " " (Absey) ...	1805	
1629	" " " (Grand) ...	1805	
1630	Voluntary Contribution for defence of Country	1798	
1631	Rate. Tax or Assessment for the Riots* (Grand)	1782	
1632	" " " (Absey)	1782	
1633	" " " (St. John)	1782	

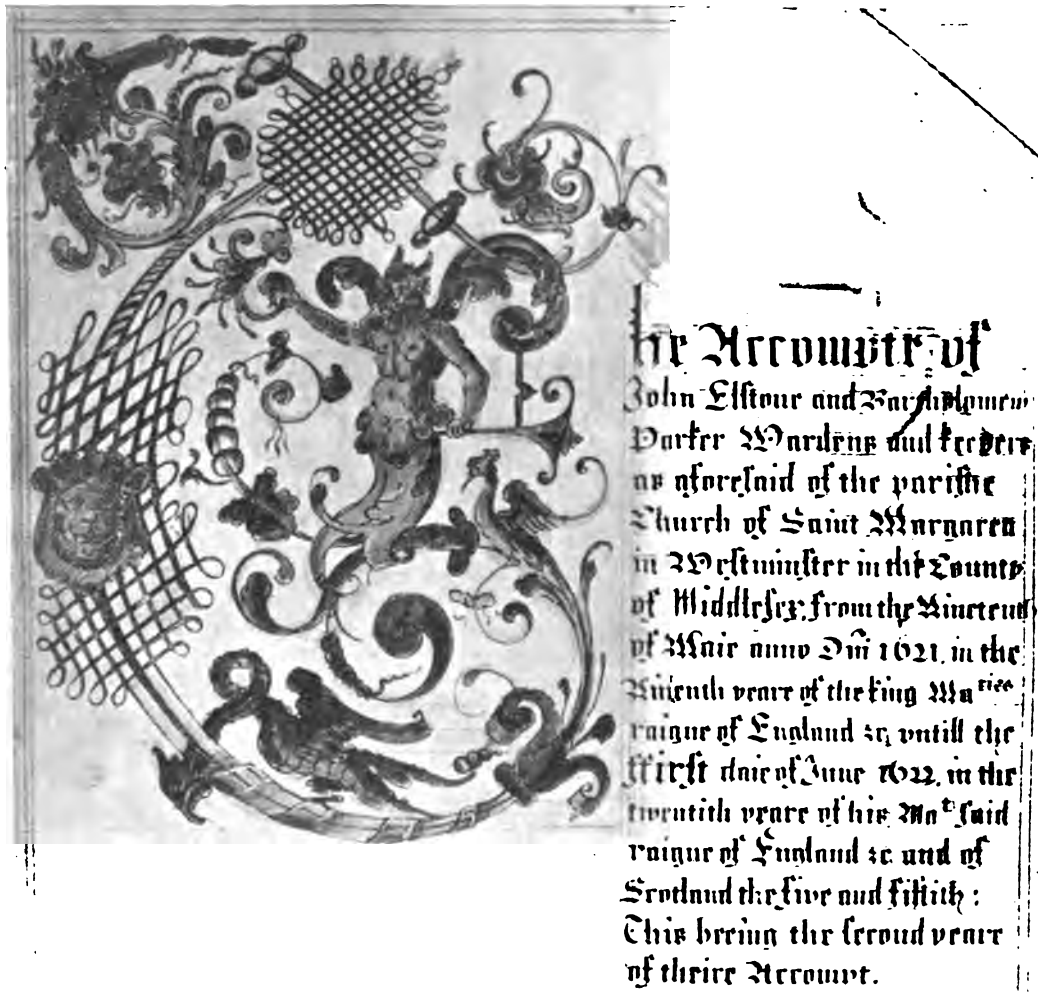
* These were the Gordon riots of which Dickens, among others, gives a graphic description in his *Barnaby Rudge*. See also 3078.

No.	Title or Nature of Record.	Year.	Shelf.
1634	Tothill Fields Trust Rate, 1st	1825	2
1635	" " " 3rd	No date.	
1636	" " " 5th	No date.	
1637	" " " 6th	No date.	
1638	" " " 7th	No date.	
1639	" " " 8th	No date.	
1640	" " " 9th	1830-1	
1641	" " " 10th	1831	
1642	" " " 11th	1831-2	
1643	" " " 12th	1832	
1644	" " " 13th	1832-3	
1645	" " " 14th	1833	
1646	" " " 15th	1833-4	
1647, 1648	" " " (2 books)	1834-5	3
1649, 1650	" " " (2 books)	1835-6	
1651	" " "	1837	
1652	" " "	1837-8	
1653	" " "	1838-9	
1654	" " "	1839-40	
1655	" " "	1840-1	
1656	" " "	1841-2	
1657	" " "	1842-3	
1658	" " "	1843-4	
1659	" " "	1844-5	
1660	" " "	1845-6	
1661	" " "	1846-7	
1662	" " "	1847-8	
1663	" " "	1848-9	
1664, 1665	" " " (2 books)	1854-5	
1666	" " "	1855	
1667	Tothill Fields Trust, Security Book	1825-6	
1668	Tothill Fields Trust, Oath Book	1830-1	
1669	Tothill Fields Trust, Cash Account	1837 to 1843	
1670	" " "	1843 to 1846	

No.	Title or Nature of Record.	Year.	Shelf.
1671	Paving Rate, Collectors' copies, Optional Streets	1790-1	4
1672	" " "	1791-2	
1673	" " "	1792-3	
1674	" " "	1793-4	
1675	" " "	1794-5	
1676	" " "	1795-6	
1677	" " "	1796-7	
1678	" " "	1797-8	
1679	" " "	1798-9	
1680	" " " ...	1799 to 1800	
1681	" " "	1800-1	
1682	" " "	1801-2	
1683	" " "	1802-3	
1684	" " "	1803-4	
1685	" " "	1804-5	
1686	" " "	1805-6	
1687	" " "	1807-8	
1688	" " "	1808-9	
1689	" " "	1809-10	
1690	" " "	1810-1	
1691	" " "	1811-2	
1692	" " "	1812-3	
1693	" " "	1814-5	
1694	" " "	1815-6	
1695	" " "	1817-8	
1696	" " "	1818-9	
1697	" " "	1819-20	
1698	" " "	1820-1	
1699	" " "	1821-2	
1700	" " "	1822-3	
1701	" " "	1823-4	
1702	" " "	1824-5	
1703	" " "	1825-6	
1704	" " "	1826-7	
1705	" " "	1827-8	
1706	" " "	1828-9	
1707	" " "	1829-30	

TITLE PAGE OF CHURCHWARDENS' ACCOUNTS, 1620-1. L

Initial letter in colours.



The Accompte of
John Elstone and Bartholomew
Parker Wardens and keepers
as aforesaid of the parishe
Church of Saint Margaret
in Westminster in the County
of Middlesex, from the Nineteenth
of Maie anno Dñi 1621. in the
Nineth yeare of the king Maties
raigne of England &c. untill the
ffirst daie of June 1622. in the
twentith yeare of his Mat. said
raigne of England &c. and of
Scotland the five and fiftith:
This beeing the second yeare
of theire Accompt.

TITLE PAGE OF CHURCHWARDENS' ACCOUNTS, 1621-2.
Initial letter in colours.

No.	Title or Nature of Record.	Year.	Shelf.
1708	Paving Rate, Collectors' copies, Optional Streets	1830-1	4
1709	" " "	1831-2	
1710	" " "	1832-3	
1711	" " "	1833-4	
1712	" " "	1834-5	
1713	" " "	1835-6	
1714	Paving Rate (Summary)	1771-8	
1715	Paving Rate, City and Liberty of Westminster, Collectors' copies	1765-6	5
1716	" " " " ...	1766-7	
1717, 1718, 1719	" " " 3 books ...	1767-8	
1720, 1721	" " " 2 books ...	1768-9	
1722, 1723	" " " " ...	1769-70	
1724, 1725	" " " " ...	1770-1	
1726, 1727, 1728	" " " 3 books ...	1771-2	
1729, 1730	" " " 2 books ...	1772-3	
1731, 1732	" " " " ...	1773-4	
1733, 1734	" " " " ...	1774-5	6
1735, 1736	" " " " ...	1775-6	
1737, 1738	" " " " ...	1776-7	
1739, 1740	" " " " ...	1777-8	
1741, 1742	" " " " ..	1778-9	

No.	Title or Nature of Record.	Year.	Shelf.
1743, 1744	Paving Rate, City and Liberty of Westminster, Collectors' copies, 2 books	1779-80	6
1745, 1746	" " " " ...	1780-1	
1747, 1748	" " " " ...	1781-2	
1749, 1750, 1751, 1752	" " " 4 books ...	1782-3	
1753	" " "	1783-4	
1754	" " "	1784-5	
1755	" " "	1785-6	7
1756, 1757	" " " 2 books ...	1787-8	
1758	" " "	1788-9	
1759	" " "	1789-90	
1760	Paving Rate, Optional Streets	1766-7	
1761	" " "	1790-1	
1762	" " "	1791-2	
1763	" " "	1792-3	
1764	" " "	1793-4	
1765	" " "	1794-5	
1766	" " "	1795-6	
1767	" " "	1796-7	
1768	" " "	1797-8	
1769	" " "	1798-9	
1770	" " "	1799-1800	
1771	" " "	1801-2	
1772	" " "	1802-3	
1773	" " "	1803-4	
1774	" " "	1804-5	
1775	" " "	1807-8	
1776	" " "	1808-9	
1777	" " "	1810-1	
1773	" " "	1813-4	
1779	" " "	1814-5	

No	Title or Nature of Record.	Year.	Shelf
1780	Paving Rate, Optional Streets	1815-6	7
1781	" " "	1816-7	
1782	" " "	1817-8	
1783	" " "	1818-9	
1784	" " "	1819-20	
1785	" " "	1820-1	
1786	" " "	1821-2	
1787	" " "	1822-3	
1788	" " "	1823-4	
1789	" " "	1824-5	
1790	" " "	1825-6	
1791	" " "	1826-7	
1792	" " "	1827-8	
1793	" " "	1828-9	
1794	" " "	1829-30	
1795	" " "	1830-1	
1796	" " "	1831-2	
1797, 1798	Paving Rate, City and Liberty of Westminster, 2 books ...	1764	
1799	" " " 1 book ...	1765	
1800	" " " " ...	1765-6	
1801	" " " " ...	1766	
1802	" " " " ...	1766-7	
1803, 1804, 1805, 1806, 1807, 1808	" " " 6 books ...	1767-8	
1809, 1810	" " " 2 books ...	1768-9	8
1811	" " "	1771-2	
1812	" " "	1772	
1813	" " "	1773-4	
1814	" "	1774	
1815	" " "	1775-6	
1816	" " "	1776-7	

No.	Title or Nature of Record.	Year.	Shelf.
1817	Paving Rate, City and Liberty of Westminster ...	1778	8
1818	,, ,, ,, ,, ...	1779	
1819	,, ,, ,, ,, ...	1780	
1820, 1821	,, ,, ,, 2 books ...	1781	
1822	,, ,, ,, ...	1782-3	
1823	,, ,, ,, ...	1784-5	
1824	,, ,, ,, ...	1786-7	
1825	,, ,, ,, ...	1787	
1826	,, ,, ,, ...	1788	
1827	,, ,, ,, ...	1789	
1828	Paving Rate, Rolls Liberty	1772	
1829	,, ,, ,, ...	1773	
1830	,, ,, ,, ...	1774	
1831	,, ,, ,, ...	1775	
1832, 1833	,, ,, ,, 2 books	1776	
1834	,, ,, ,, ...	1777-8	
1835	,, ,, ,, ...	1778-9	
1836	,, ,, ,, ...	1780	
1837	,, ,, ,, ...	1784	
1838	,, ,, ,, ...	1785	
1839	,, ,, ,, ...	1785-6	
1840	,, ,, ,, ...	1786-7	
1841	,, ,, ,, ...	1787-8	
1842, 1843, 1844, 1845	,, ,, ,, 4 books	1788-9	
1846, 1847	,, ,, ,, 2 books	1790-1	
1848, 1849	,, ,, ,, ,, ...	1791-2	
1850, 1851	,, ,, ,, ,, ...	1792-3	
1852, 1853	,, ,, ,, ,, ...	1793-4	

No.	Title or Nature of Record.	Year.	Shelf.
1854	Paving Rate, Rolls Liberty	1794-5	8
1855, 1856	" " " 2 books	1795-6	
1857	" " "	1796-7	
1858, 1859	" " " 2 books	1797-8	
1860, 1861	" " " "	1798-9	
1862, 1863	" " " "	1799-1800	
1864, 1865	" " " "	1800-1	
1866, 1867	" " " "	1801-2	
1868	" " "	1802-3	
1869	" " "	1804-5	
1870	" " "	1807-8	
1871	" " "	1808-9	
1872	Rate for relief of poor; and Watch (copies) (Grand) ...	1789	131
1873	" " " (Absey) ...	1789	
1874	" " " (St. John) ...	1789	
1875	" " " (Grand) ...	1790	
1876	" " " (Absey) ...	1790	
1877	" " " (St. John) ...	1790	
1878	" " " (Grand) ...	1791	
1879	" " " (Absey) ...	1791	
1880	" " " (St. John) ...	1791	
1881	" " " (Grand) ...	1792	
1882	" " " (Absey) ...	1792	
1883	" " " (St. John) ...	1792	
1884	" " " (Grand) ...	1793	
1885	" " " (Absey) ...	1793	
1886	" " " (St. John) ...	1793	
1887	" " " (Grand) ...	1794	
1888	" " " (Absey) ..	1794	
1889	" " " (St. John) ...	1794	
1890	" " " (Grand) ...	1795	

No.	Title or Nature of Record.	Year.	Shelf.
1891	Rate for relief of poor; and Watch (copies) (Absey) ...	1795	131
1892	" " " (St. John) ...	1795	
1893	" " " (Grand) ...	1796	
1894	" " " (Absey) ...	1796	
1895	" " " (St. John) ...	1796	
1896	" " " (Grand) ...	1830	
1897	" " " (Absey) ...	1830	
1898	" " " (Knightsbridge) ...	1830	
1899	" " " (St. John) ...	1830	
1900	" " " (Grand) ...	1831	
1901	" " " (Absey) ...	1831	
1902	" " " (Knightsbridge) ...	1831	
1903	" " " (part 1, St. John)...	1831	
1904	" " " (part 2, St. John)...	1831	
1905	" " " (Grand) ...	1832	
1906	" " " (Absey) ...	1832	
1907	" " " (Knightsbridge) ...	1832	
1908	" " " (part 1, St. John)...	1832	
1909	" " " (part 2, St. John)...	1832	
1910	" " " (Grand) ..	1833	130
1911	" " " (Absey) ...	1833	
1912	" " " (Knightsbridge) ...	1833	
1913	" " " (part 1, St. John)...	1833	
1914	" " " (part 2, St. John)...	1833	
1915	" " " (Grand) ...	1834	
1916	" " " (Absey) ...	1834	
1917	" " " (Knightsbridge) ...	1834	
1918	" " " (part 1, St. John)...	1834	
1919	" " " (part 2, St. John)...	1834	
1920	" " " (Grand) ...	1835	
1921	" " " (Absey) ...	1835	
1922	" " " (Knightsbridge) ...	1835	
1923	" " " (part 1, St. John)...	1835	
1924	" " " (part 2, St. John)...	1835	
1925	" " " (Absey) ...	1836	
1926	" " " (Absey) ...	1836	
1927	" " " (Knightsbridge) ...	1836	

No.	Title or Nature of Record.	Year.	Shelf.
1928	Rate for relief of poor; and Watch (copies)(part 1, St. John)...	1836	130
1929	" " " (part 2, St. John)...	1836	
1930	" " " (Grand) ...	1837	
1931	" " " (Absey) ...	1837	
1932	" " " (Knightsbridge) ...	1837	
1933	" " " (part 1, St. John) ...	1837	
1934	" " " (part 2, St. John) ...	1837	
1935 / 1936	" " " (Grand) 2 copies ...	1838	
1937 / 1938	" " " (Absey) " ...	1838	
1939 / 1940	" " " (Knightsbridge) " ...	1838	
1941	" " " (part 1, St. John) ...	1838	
1942	" " " (part 2, St. John) ...	1838	
1943	" " " (Grand) ...	1839	
1944	" " " (Absey) ...	1839	
1945	" " " (St. John) ...	1839	
1946	" " " (Grand) ...	1840	
1947	" " " (Absey) ...	1840	
1948	" " " (St. John) ...	1840	
1949	" " " (Grand) ...	1841	
1950	" " " (Absey) ...	1841	
1951	" " " (St. John) ...	1841	
1952	" " " (Grand) ...	1842	129
1953	" " " (Absey) ...	1842	
1954	" " " (St. John) ...	1842	
1955	" " " (Grand) ...	1843	
1956	" " " (Absey) ...	1843	
1957	" " " (St. John) ...	1843	
1958	" " " (Grand) ...	1844	
1959	" " " (Absey) ...	1844	
1960	" " " (St. John) ...	1844	
1961	" " " (Grand) ..	1845	
1962	" " " (Absey) ...	1845	
1963	" " " (St. John) ...	1845	

No.	Title or Nature of Record.	Year.	Shelf.
1964	Rate for relief of poor; and Watch (copies) (Grand) ...	1846	129
1965	" " " (Absey) ...	1846	
1966	" " " (St. John) ...	1846	
1967	" " " (Grand) ...	1847	
1968	" " " (Absey) ...	1847	
1969	" " " (St. John) ...	1847	
1970	" " " (Grand) ...	1848	
1971	" " " (Absey) ...	1848	
1972	" " " (St. John) ...	1848	
1973	" " " (Grand) ...	1849	
1974	" " " (Absey) ...	1849	
1975	" " " (St. John) ...	1849	
1976	" " " (Grand) ...	1850	
1977	" " " (Absey & Knightsbridge)	1850	
1978	" " " (St. John) ...	1850	
1979	" " " (Grand) ...	1851	
1980	" " " (Absey) ...	1851	
1981	" " " (St. John) ...	1851	
1982	" " " (Grand) ...	1852	
1983	" " " (Absey) ...	1852	
1984	" " " (St. John) ...	1852	
1985	" " " (Grand) ...	1853	
1986	" " " (Absey & Knightsbridge)	1853	
1987	" " " (St. John) ...	1853	
1988	" " " (Grand) ...	1854	128
1989	" " " (Absey & Knightsbridge)	1854	
1990	" " " (St. John) ...	1854	
1991	" " " (Grand) ...	1855	
1992	" " " (Absey & Knightsbridge)	1855	
1993	" " " (St. John) ...	1855	
1994	Rate for relief of poor (copies) (Grand) ...	1856	
1995	" " " (Absey & Knightsbridge)	1856	
1996	" " " (St. John) ...	1856	
1997	" " " (Grand) ...	1857	
1998	" " " (Absey & Knightsbridge)	1857	
1999	" " " (St. John) ...	1857	
2000	" " " (Grand) ...	1858	

No.	Title or Nature of Record.	Year.	Shelf.
2001	Rate for relief of poor (copies) (Absey & Knightsbridge)	1858	128
2002	" " " (St. John) ...	1858	
2003	" " " (Grand) ...	1859	
2004	" " " (Absey) ...	1859	
2005	" " " (St. John) ...	1859	
2006	" " " (Grand) ...	1860	
2007	" " " (Absey & Knightsbridge)	1860	
2008	" " " (St. John) ...	1860	
2009	" " " (Grand) ...	1861	
2010	" " " (Absey & Knightsbridge)	1861	
2011	" " " (St. John) ...	1861	
2012	" " " (Grand) ...	1862	
2013	" " " (Absey) ...	1862	
2014	" " " (St. John) ...	1862	
2015	" " " (Grand) ...	1863	
2016	" " " (Absey & Knightsbridge)	1863	
2017	" " " (St. John) ...	1863	
2018	" " " (Grand) ...	1864	
2019	" " " (Absey & Knightsbridge)	1864	
2020	" " " (St. John) ...	1864	
2021	" " " (Grand) ...	1865	
2022	" " " (Absey & Knightsbridge)	1865	
2023	" " " (St. John) ...	1865	
2024	" " " (Grand) ...	1866	
2025	" " " (Absey & Knightsbridge)	1866	
2026	" " " (St. John) ...	1866	
2027	" " " (Grand) ...	1867	
2028	" " " (Absey & Knightsbridge)	1867	
2029	" " " (St. John) ...	1867	
2030	" " " (Grand and Absey) ...	1868	
2031	" " " (Knightsbridge) ...	1868	
2032	" " " (St. John) ...	1868	
2033	" " " (Grand and Absey) ...	1869	
2034	" " " (Knightsbridge) ...	1869	
2035	" " " (St. John) ...	1869	
2036	" " " (whole parish) ...	1871	
2037	" " " (whole parish) ...	1872	

No.	Title or Nature of Record.	Year.	Shelf.
2038	Overseers' Personal Pay Book	1740	39
2039	" " "	1742	
2040, 2041, 2042, 2043, 2044	" " " 5 books	1827-8	
2045, 2046	" " " 2 books	1828-9	
2047, 2048, 2049	" " " 3 books	1829-30	
2050, 2051	" " " 2 books	1830-1	
2052	" " "	1831	
2053	" " "	1831-2	
2054	St. John-the-Evangelist, Church Notices	1790 to 1803	
2055	" " "	1815 to 1831	
2056	" " Vestry Notices (Paving Committee)	1831 to 1837	
2057	" " "	1847 to 1875	
2058	" " Letter Book	1841 to 1882	
2059	St. John-the-Evangelist, Rough Minutes of Auditors and of Committees	1832-3, 1850-1888	
2060	St. John-the-Evangelist, Minutes of Ward Meetings for Elections	1855 to 1879	
2061	St. John-the-Evangelist, Committee Minutes *re* evening service in Church	1834	
2062	St. John-the-Evangelist, Minutes of Burial Ground Committee	1728 to 1736	
2063	St. John-the-Evangelist, Register of Indentures *re* building of Church	1713	
2064	Tothill Fields Trustees' Minutes, No. 1	1825-42	
2065	" " " No. 2	1843-55	
2066	Tothill Fields Improvement Act (6 George IV.)	1825	
2067	Inventory MS. of records in the Chapter-house, Westminster*	1807	
2068	Poor Rate, Treasurer's Pay Book	1752	40
2069	" " "	1753	

* Presented by Mr. Daniel Hipkins, March, 1900.

No.	Title or Nature of Record.	Year.	Shelf.
2070	Poor Rate, Treasurer's Accounts	1754	40
2071	" " "	1755	
2072	" " "	1756	
2073	" " "	1757	
2074	" " "	1758	
2075	" " "	1759	
2076	" " "	1760	
2077	" " "	1761	
2078	" " "	1762	
2079	" " "	1763	
2080	" " "	1764	
2081	" " "	1765	
2082	" " "	1766	
2083	" " "	1767	
2084	" " "	1768	
2085	" " "	1769	
2086	" " "	1790 to 1798	
2087	" " "	1798 to 1803	
2088	" " "	1803 to 1807	
2089	" " "	1807 to 1812	
2090	" " "	1812 to 1817	
2091	" " "	1817 to 1821	
2092	" " "	1821 to 1825	
2093	" " "	1825 to 1829	
2094	" " "	1829 to 1842	
2095	" " "	1842 to 1851	
2096	" " "	1851 to 1858	
2097	" " "	1858 to 1865	
2098	" " "	1865 to 1867	
2099	Treasurer's Accounts, District Board of Works ...	1857 to 1861	
2100	" " " ...	1861 to 1866	
2101	" " " ...	1866 to 1869	
2102	Poor Rate, Treasurer's Cash Book, marked "C" ...	1851 to 1858	41
2103	" " " "D" ...	1858 to 1864	
2104	" " " "E" ...	1864 to 1868	
2105	" " " "F" ...	1868 to 1870	
2106	Poor Rate, Treasurer's Accounts	1759	

No.	Title or Nature of Record.	Year.	Shelf.
2107	Poor Rate, Treasurer's Accounts	1769	41
2108	" " "	1770	
2109	" " "	1771-2	
2110	" " "	1772-3	
2111	" " "	1773-4	
2112	" " "	1774-5	
2113	" " "	1775-6	
2114	" " "	1776	
2115	" " "	1777	
2116	" " "	1778	
2117	" " "	1779-80	
2118	" " "	1781-2	
2119	" " "	1782-3	
2120	" " "	1783-4	
2121	" " "	1784-5	
2122	" " "	1785	
2123	" " "	1787	
2124	Paving Commissioners' Drafts	1773 to 1776	
2125	" " "	1776 to 1777	
2126	" " "	1777 to 1779	
2127	" " "	1779 to 1781	
2128	" " "	1781 to 1784	
2129	" " "	1784 to 1788	
2130	" " "	1788 to 1791	
2131	" " "	1792 to 1795	
2132	" " "	1795 to 1800	
2133	" " "	1800 to 1805	
2134	" " "	1805 to 1810	
2135	" " "	1811 to 1818	
2136	" " "	1819 to 1829	
2137	" " "	1829 to 1835	
2138	Overseers' Account Books	1656	42
2139	" " "	1659-60	
2140	" " "	1661-4	
2141	" " "	1663-4	
2142	Workhouse, Clerk's Cash Account	1850 to 1855	
2143	" " "	1855 to 1861	

No.	Title or Nature of Record.	Year.	Shelf.
2144	Workhouse, Clerk's Cash Account	1869 to 1870	42
2145	Account (apparently a journal of Overseers' personal receipts and disbursements)	1663 to 1665	
2146	Watch Accounts (Burgesses')	... 1729	
2147	" "	1736 to 1801	
2148	" "	1802 to 1829	
2149	" "	1781 to 1782	
2150	Watchmen's Pay Book	1796 to 1797	
2151	Workhouse Accounts	1727 to 1739	
2152	" "	1740 to 1846	
2153	" "	1746 to 1752	
2154	New Workhouse Accounts	1852 to 1865	
2155	" " "	1852 to 1877	
2156	Church Rate	1830 to 1834	
2157	Church Rate, Account of Collection (3 books) ...	... 1818	
2158	Wages Book, Parish Officers	1758 to 1766	
2159	Militia Pay Books	... 1799	
2160	" "	... 1800	
2161	"Big Tom" Account	1698	

[The demands of the poor were so severe at this time that the Vestry sought to supplement the rates by an appeal to the bounty of the King. The Churchwardens shortly afterwards reported to the Vestry that they had received the King's grant of the bell, commonly called Great Tom of Westminster, and the tower and steeple in which it was suspended, towards defraying the great debt of the parish. The Letters Patent under the Privy Seal were laid before the Vestry on 1st August, 1698, whereupon immediate orders were given for the demolition of the tower and the sale of the materials and the bell to the best advantage. The Churchwardens were instructed to take the advice of Sir Christopher Wren, whose estimate of the value of the gift at £244 is recited in the grant. The proceedings of the Vestry upon the business, which are fully transcribed in *Local Government in Westminster*, 1890, are too long to be reproduced here.

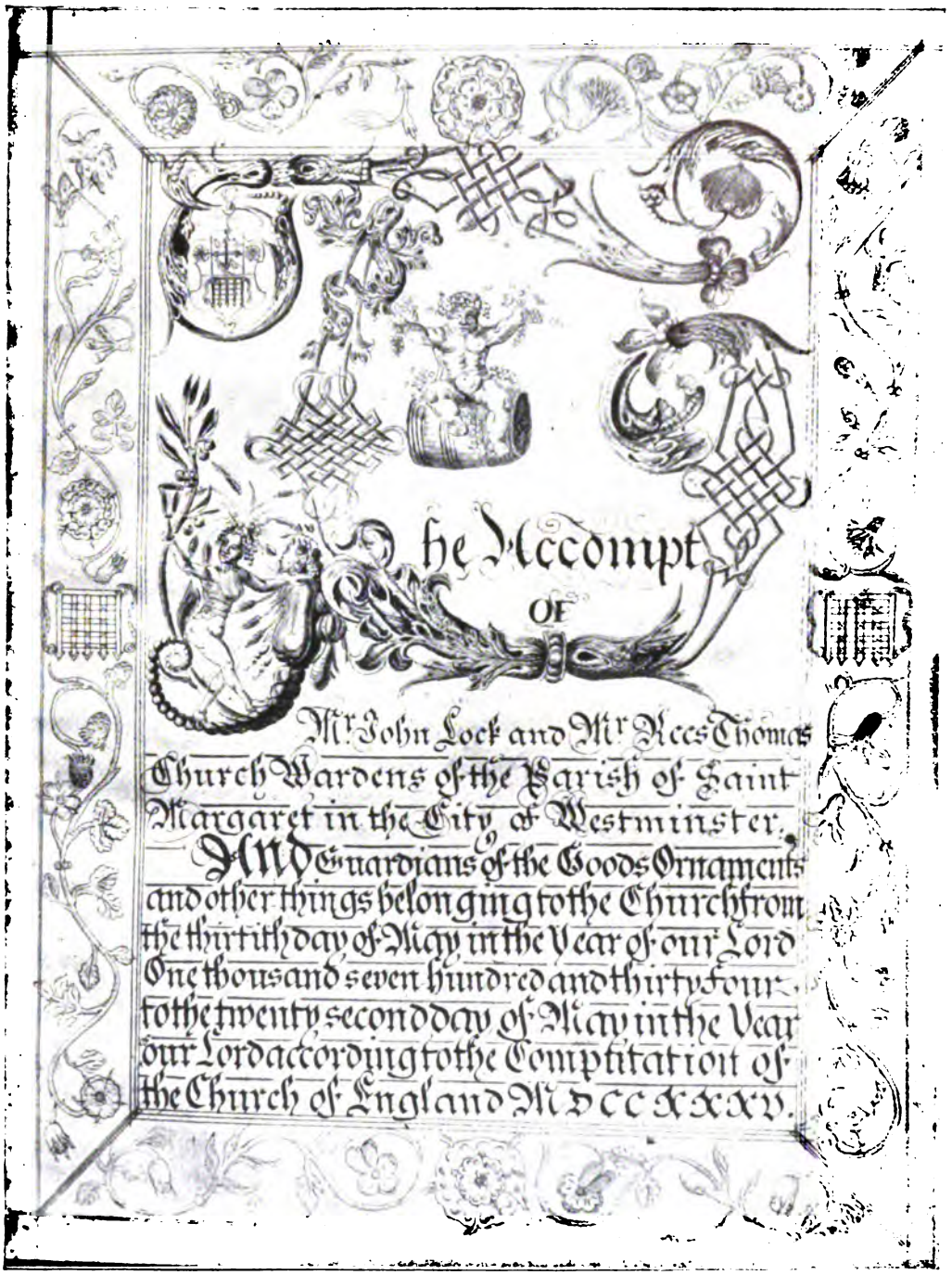
Every detail is carefully recorded in the volume No. 2161; but it must be sufficient for the present purpose to say that the total receipts were £664 7s. 10d., the total cost of demolition and removal £233 7s. 1d., and the net sum obtained for the relief of the poor £431 0s. 9d.—£187 more than "our trusty and well-beloved Sir Christopher Wren" had estimated.

Walcott, in his *Memorials*, ed. 1849, p. 197-9, says that the tower was built in 1278-90, and that the bell was known before the Reformation as "Great Edward," after the Royal Confessor. Walcott's account of the weight of the bell, and of the proceeds of its sale is, however, at variance on all points with the certificate entered upon the Vestry minutes and with the figures in the volume now under notice. He goes on to prove that this was the bell which was heard by the sentinel at Windsor Castle to strike thirteen, which being established as a fact, was successfully pleaded in defence of the charge of sleeping while on duty, and resulted in the man's acquittal.]

No.	Title or Nature of Record.	Year.	Shelf.
2162	Watch Rate, Collector's pocket copy	1726	42
2163	Plumbers' Account	1782	
2164	Baths and Washhouses Loan Accounts	1849 to 1873	
2165	Street Cleansing Accounts	1847 to 1855	
2166	Workhouse Accounts, abstract of	1861	
	" " "	1864	
	" " "	1865	
2167	Churchwardens' Accounts (green books)	1726-7	43
2168	" " "	1743-4	
2169	" " "	1752	
2170	" " (small books)	1753	
2171	" " "	1754	
2172	" " "	1757	
2173	" " "	1758	
2174	" " "	1759	
2175	" " "	1760	
2176	" " "	1761	
2177	" " "	1762	
2178, 2179	" " " 2 books	1763	
2180	" " "	1764	
2181	" " "	1765	
2182	" " "	1766	
2183	" " "	1767	
2184	" " "	1768	
2185	" " "	1769	
2186	" " "	1770	
2187	" " "	1771	
2188	" " "	1772	
2189	" " "	1774	
2190	" " "	1775	
2191, 2192	" " " 2 books	1776	
2193	" " "	1777	
2194	" " " fire plug boxes, etc. ...	1777	
2195, 2196	" " " 2 books	1778	

No.	Title or Nature of Record.	Year.	Shelf.
2197, 2198, 2199	Churchwardens' Accounts, (small books) 3 books	1779	43
2200	,, ,, ,, ...	1780	
2201, 2202	,, ,, ,, 2 books	1781	
2203	,, ,, ,, ...	1782	
2204	,, ,, ,, ...	1783	
2205	,, ,, ,, ...	1784	
2206	,, ,, ,, ...	1785	
2207	,, ,, ,, ...	1786	
2208	,, ,, ,, ...	1787	
2209	,, ,, ,, a pamphlet	1788	
2210	,, ,, ,, St. Margaret's Hospital	1789	
2211	,, ,, ,, a pamphlet ...	1789-90	
2212	,, ,, ,, ...	1791	
2213, 2214	,, ,, ,, 2 books	1793	
2215	,, ,, ,, ...	1794	
2216	,, ,, ,, ...	1795	
2217	,, ,, ,, ...	1796	
2218	,, ,, ,, ...	1797	
2219	,, ,, ,, ...	1798	
2220	,, ,, ,, ...	1799	
2221	,, ,, ,, ...	1800	
2222, 2223	,, ,, ,, 2 books	1801	44
2224, 2225	,, ,, ,, 2 books	1802	
2226	,, ,, ,, ...	1803	
2227	,, ,, ,, ...	1804	
2228, 2229	,, ,, ,, 2 books	1805	
2230, 2231	,, ,, ,, 2 books	1806	
2232, 2233	,, ,, ,, 2 books	1807	

No.	Title or Nature of Record.	Year.	Shelf.
2234 2235	Accounts, Churchwardens' (small books), 2 books	1808	44
2236	" " "	1809	
2237	" " "	1810	
2238	" " "	1811	
2239	" " "	1812	
2240 2241	" " " 2 books	1814	
2242 2243	" " " 2 books	1815	
2244	" " "	1816	
2245	" " "	1817	
2246	" " "	1818	
2247	" " "	1819	
2248	" " "	1821	
2249	" " "	1822	
2250	" " "	1823	
2251	" " "	1824	
2252	" " "	1825	
2253	" " "	1826	
2254	" " "	1827	
2255 2256	" " " 2 books	1828	
2257	" " "	1829	
2258	" " "	1830	
2259	" " "	1831	
2260	" " "	1832	
2261	" " "	1833	
2262 2263	" " " 2 books	1834	
2264	" " "	1835	
2265	" " "	1836-7	
2266 2267	" " " 2 books	1837-8	
2268	" " "	1838-9	
2269	" " "	1839-40	
2270	" " "	1840-1	



The Accompt
OF
Mr. John Lock and Mr. Rees Thomas
Church Wardens of the Parish of Saint
Margaret in the City of Westminster,
And Guardians of the Goods Ornaments
and other things belonging to the Church from
the thirtith day of May in the Year of our Lord
One thousand seven hundred and thirty four,
to the twenty second day of May in the Year
our Lord according to the Comptitation of
the Church of England MDCCXXXV.

TITLE PAGE OF CHURCHWARDENS' ACCOUNTS, 1734-5.

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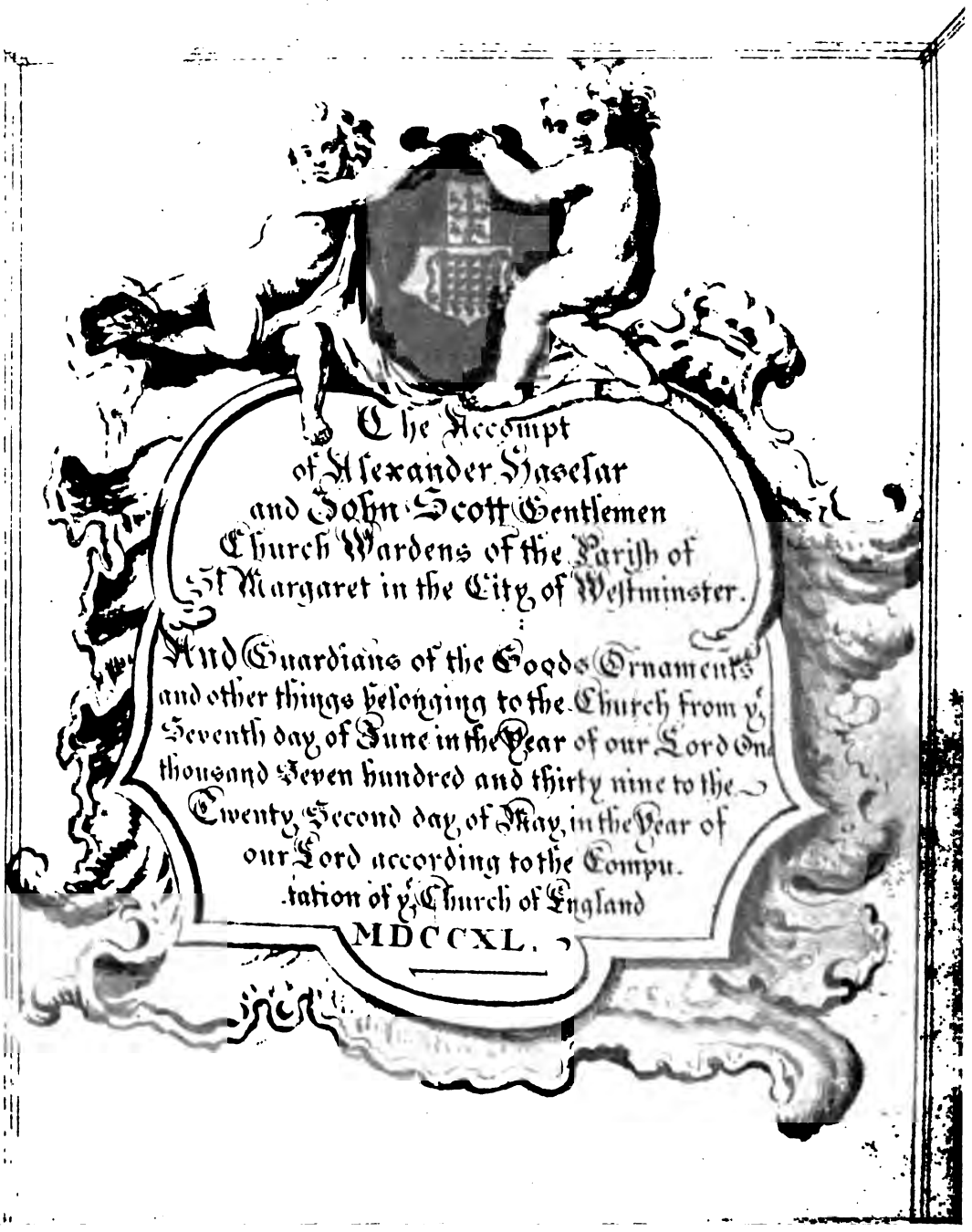
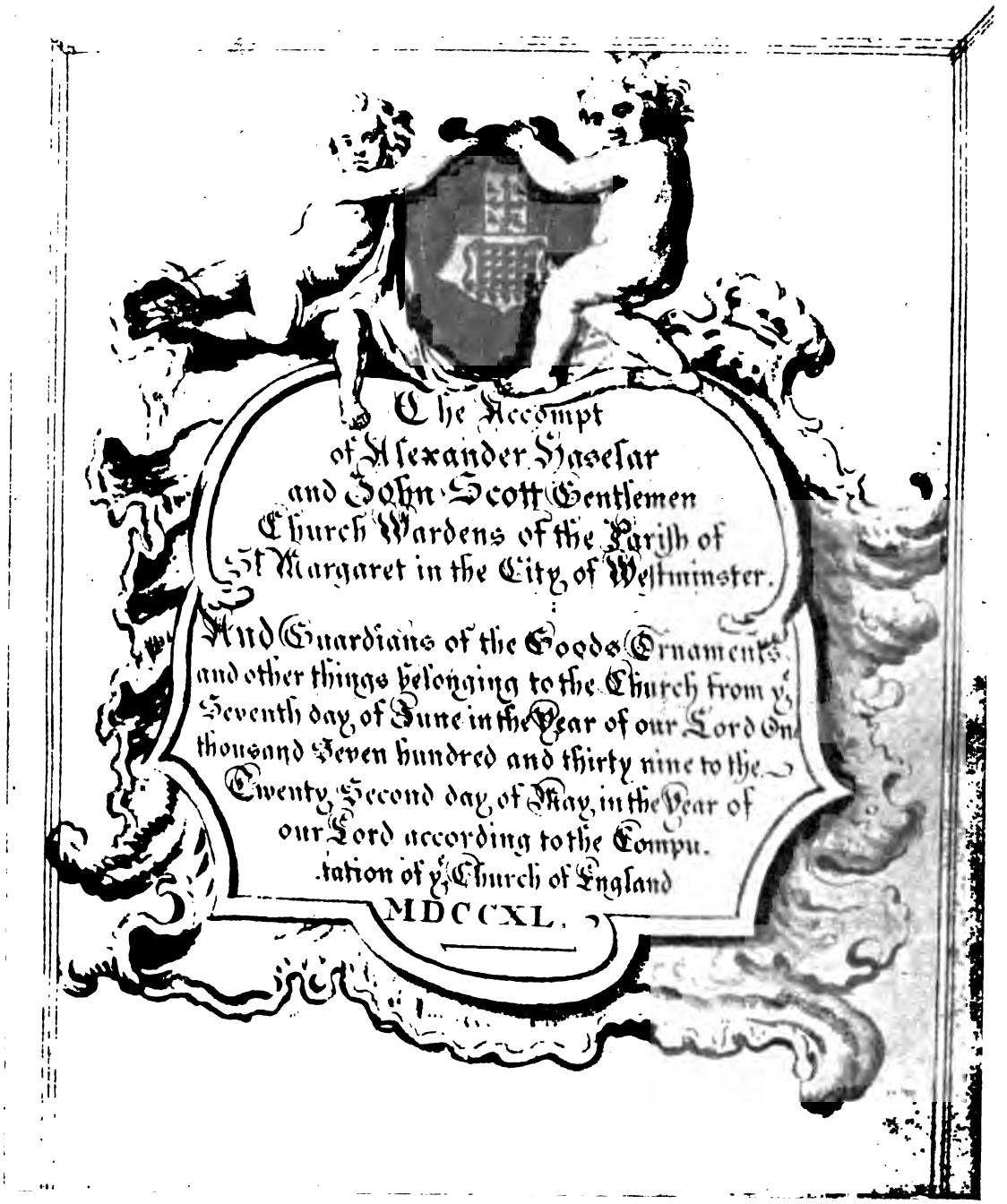


TITLE PAGE OF CHURCHWARDENS' ACCOUNTS, 1739-40.

No.	Title or Nature of Record.	Year.	Shelf.
2271	Churchwardens' Accounts (small books)	1841-2	44
2272	" " "	1842-3	
2273	" " "	1843-4	45
2274	" " "	1844-5	
2275	" " "	1845-6	
2276	" " "	1846-7	
2277	" " "	1847-8	
2278	" " "	1848-9	
2279	" " "	1849-50	
2280	" " "	1850-1	
2281	" " "	1851-2	
2282	" " "	1852-3	
2283	" " "	1853-4	
2284	" " "	1854-5	
2285	" " "	1855-6	
2286	" " "	1856-7	
2287	" " "	1857-8	
2288	" " "	1858-9	
2289	" " "	1862-3	
2290	" " "	1866-7	
2291	Poor Rate, Account of Collection	1770 to 1787	
	Poor and Watch Rate, Account of Collection	1788	
	" " " (Grand) ...	1789	
	" " " (Absey) ...	1789	
	" " " (St. John) ...	1791	
2292	" " "	1792-5	
	Poor, Highway, and Watch Rate, Account of Collection, 2 books	1794	
	Poor and Watch Rate; deficiencies, comparative view of, 3 books	1791-2	
2293	Paving Commissioners' Accounts, Parochial Journal ...	1780 to 1788	
2294	" " " ...	1789 to 1799	
2295	" " " ...	1799 to 1812	
2296	" " " ...	1813 to 1823	
2297	" " " ...	1824 to 1833	
2298	" " " ...	1818 to 1823	
2299	" " Parochial Ledger ...	1780 to 1798	46



The Accompt
of Alexander Haselar
and John Scott Gentlemen
Church Wardens of the Parish of
St Margaret in the City of Westminster.

And Guardians of the Goods Ornaments
and other things belonging to the Church from y
Seventh day of June in the Year of our Lord On
thousand Seven hundred and thirty nine to the
Twenty Second day of May, in the Year of
our Lord according to the Compu.
tation of y Church of England
MDCCXL.

TITLE PAGE OF CHURCHWARDENS' ACCOUNTS, 1739-40.

No.	Title or Nature of Record.	Year.	Shelf.
2271	Churchwardens' Accounts (small books)	1841-2	44
2272	" " "	1842-3	
2273	" " "	1843-4	45
2274	" " "	1844-5	
2275	" " "	1845-6	
2276	" " "	1846-7	
2277	" " "	1847-8	
2278	" " "	1848-9	
2279	" " "	1849-50	
2280	" " "	1850-1	
2281	" " "	1851-2	
2282	" " "	1852-3	
2283	" " "	1853-4	
2284	" " "	1854-5	
2285	" " "	1855-6	
2286	" " "	1856-7	
2287	" " "	1857-8	
2288	" " "	1858-9	
2289	" " "	1862-3	
2290	" " "	1866-7	
2291	Poor Rate, Account of Collection	1770 to 1787	
	Poor and Watch Rate, Account of Collection	1788	
	" " " (Grand) ...	1789	
	" " " (Absey) ...	1789	
	" " " (St. John) ...	1791	
2292	" " "	1792-5	
	Poor, Highway, and Watch Rate, Account of Collection, 2 books	1794	
	Poor and Watch Rate; deficiencies, comparative view of, 3 books	1791-2	
2293	Paving Commissioners' Accounts, Parochial Journal ...	1780 to 1788	
2294	" " " ...	1789 to 1799	
2295	" " " ...	1799 to 1812	
2296	" " " ...	1813 to 1823	
2297	" " " ...	1824 to 1833	
2298	" " " ...	1818 to 1823	
2299	" " Parochial Ledger ...	1780 to 1798	46

No.	Title or Nature of Record.	Year.	Shelf.
2300	Paving Commissioners' Accounts, Parochial Ledger ...	1799 to 1818	46
2301	" " " ...	1818 to 1824	
2302	" " " ...	1824 to 1832	
2303	" " " ...	1832 to 1834	
2304	" " " ...	... 1835	
2305	Armed Patrol, List of Members (see also Box 4) ...	... 1798	
	" "	... No date.	
2306	Armed Patrol, Subscription Books	1782 to 1802	
2307	Armed Patrol, Accounts of	... 1782-4	
2308	Subscription List for relief of families of soldiers ...	... 1815	
2309	Subscription List for suppression of rebellion ...	... 1745	
2310	Subscription List for repairing St. Margaret's Churchyard and erecting Watch House	... 1747	
2311	Subscription List for enlisting men (2 books) ...	... No date.	
2312	Subscription for immediate relief of poor (2 books) ...	... 1776	
	List of persons relieved (2 books)	... 1776	
	Subscription for poor	... 1789	
2313	Relief List (2 books)	... No date.	
2314	Subscription for poor, accounts and proceedings (parcel) ...	1814	
2315	Subscription for distressed manufacturers (2 books) ...	... 1827	
2316	Paving and Lighting Ledgers, District Board of Works	1856 to 1860	
2317	" " " "	1861 to 1866	
2318	Paving works Ledgers, District Board of Works ...	1867 to 1876	
2319	" " " ...	1877 to 1881	
2320	Sewerage works Ledgers, District Board of Works ...	1856 to 1860	47
2321	" " " ...	1861 to 1865	
2322	Paving Accounts, District Board of Works	1856 to 1860	
2323	" " " ...	1860 to 1864	
2324	" " " ...	1864 to 1867	
2325	" " " ...	1867 to 1870	
2326	" " " ...	1870 to 1874	
2327	Paving Committee, 1s. Rate Account, Cash Book ...	1771 to 1808	
2328	" " 6d. " " ...	1771 to 1798	
2329	" " Cash Book	1809 to 1829	
2330	Collectors' Irrecoverables, St. Margaret's Ward 3 ...	1882 to 1885	
2331	Kensington Trust Accounts	1766 to 1776	
2332	" " Ledger	1766 to 1799	

No.	Title or Nature of Record.	Year.	Shelf.
2333	Kensington Trust Accounts, Journal	1777 to 1799	47
2334	„ „ „	1800 to 1813	
2335	Paving Commissioners' Accounts	1778	
	Workhouse Accounts	Missing.	
2336	Paving Commissioners, Contract Book	1767-8	
2337	„ „ „	1768-9	
2338	„ „ „	1769	48
2339.	„ „ „	1771-2	
2340	Paving Commissioners, list of streets paved	1763 to 1786	
2341	Paving Commissioners, Inspector's Trench Books ...	1772 to 1776	
2342	Banker's Pass Books, Guardians of the Poor, Vestry ...	1869 to 1871	
2343	„ „ Poor Rate, Vestry	1869 to 1874	
2344	„ „ „	1873 to 1877	
2345	„ „ General Rate, Vestry	1873 to 1877	
2346	„ „ Consolidated Rate, Vestry ...	1873 to 1876	
2347	„ „ „	1876 to 1877	
2348	„ „ School Board, Vestry ...	1873 to 1877	
2349	„ „ Sewer, Vestry	1873 to 1877	
2350	„ „ Montpelier Square, Vestry ...	1873 to 1877	
2351	„ „ Rector's Rate, Vestry	1877	
2352	Board of Works' Precepts on Vestry	1856 to 1867	
2353	„ „	1867 to 1883	
2354	„ „	1884 to 1888	
2355	Register of Mortgages, District Board of Works ...	1852 to 1887	
2356	Register of Contracts, District Board of Works ...	1856 to 1887	
2357	Liability Book, District Board of Works	1856 to 1871	
2358	Wages or Pay Book, Vestry	1888 to 1891	
2359	License Account, Vestry	1888 to 1894	
2360	Collectors' Payments to Bank	1891 to 1894	
2361	Clerk's Petty Cash Account, District Board of Works ...	1856 to 1860	
2362	„ „ „ „ ...	1860 to 1866	
2363	Clerk's Cash Account, Wages, General, and Petty Cash, District Board of Works	1866 to 1868	
2364	„ „ „ „ ...	1869 to 1871	
2365	Vestry Petty Cash	1878 to 1888	
2366	Clerk's Cash Book, District Board	1874 to 1879	
2367	„ „ „	1879 to 1884	

No.	Title or Nature of Record.	Year.	Shelf.
2368	Clerk's Cash Book, District Board	1885 to 1888	48
2369	„ „ Vestry	1888 to 1891	49
2370	„ „ „	... 1891-2	
2371	„ „ „	... 1892-4	
2372	„ „ „	... 1895-6	
2373	Receipts, Ledger, District Board	1856 to 1859	50
2374	„ „ „	1859 to 1867	
2375	Payments „ „	1858 to 1867	
2376	„ „ „	1866 to 1870	
2377	Street Cleansing „ "B"	1870 to 1873	
2378	Receipts „ „	1866 to 1874	
2379	Works „ „	... 1870-4	
2380	Finance „ „	... 1870-3	
2381	Receipts „ „	1874 to 1884	
2382	Works „ „ "A"	1875 to 1885	
2383	Street Cleansing „ "B"	1874 to 1884	
2384	Finance „ „ "C"	1874 to 1885	
2385	Receipts „ „	1885 to 1888	
2386	Works „ „ "A"	1885 to 1888	
2387	Street Cleansing „ "B"	1885 to 1888	
2388	Finance „ „ "C"	... 1885-8	
2389	Receipts „ Vestry	... 1888-92	
2390	Works „ „ "A"	... 1888-92	
2391	Street Cleansing „ "B"	... 1888-92	51
2392	Finance „ „ "C"	... 1888-92	
2393	Receipts „ „	... 1892-5	
2394	Works „ „ "A"	... 1892-5	
2395	Sanitary „ „ "B"	... 1892-5	
2396	Finance „ „ "C"	... 1892-5	
2397	Street Cleansing „ "D"	... 1892-5	
2398	Receipts „ „	... 1895-8	
2399	Works „ „ "A"	... 1895-8	
2400	Sanitary „ „ "B"	... 1895-8	
2401	Finance „ „ "C"	... 1895-8	
2402	Works „ „ No. 2, "D"	... 1895-8	
2403	Libraries and Baths „ "E"	... 1896-8	
2404	Cash Book, District Board	... 1856-61	52

No.	Title or Nature of Record.	Year.	Shelf.
2405	Cash Book, District Board	1862-68	52
2406	„ „	1869-73	
2407	„ „	1874-83	
2408	„ „	1884-88	
2409	Cash Book, Vestry	1888-91	
2410	„ „	1891-94	
2411	„ „	1894-96	
2412	„ „	1896-98	

VESTRY MINUTES.

Just as the churchwardens' accounts afford an insight into the management of the affairs of the church, and the overseers' accounts reveal the development of the poor laws, so the Vestry minutes exhibit the unfolding of the present system of local self-government. This important series commences in 1585-91, so that three centuries of parochial self-government are disclosed. In these simple annals may be traced the gradual formation of a system of local management which, however its imperfections in minor details may be magnified, may claim to be without a parallel.

A large share of attention was given by the Vestry in its early days to matters relating to the fabric and the services of the church. The precise seat which a parishioner should occupy would be the subject of a protracted debate, the hours at which Divine service should be held would be appointed by the Vestry, ministers would be chosen or displaced, the chimes would be regulated, the precise position of a sconce for the candles would be settled by a resolution, the refreshment to be provided for the preacher would be deliberately discussed, not to speak of countless other details in the same connection. But besides all this, almost every branch of the civil administration in its early stages, if not in its origin, may be traced to these annals. Here are to be found the germs which, under the fostering care of the ancient vestry, have grown into the water supply, the drainage, the preservation of the peace, the highway maintenance, the public lighting, and the charity administration of to-day; and here, too, the forefathers of the present system may be found enforcing the observance of the Sabbath, suppressing drunkenness, promoting the national defence, guiding the electorate in the choice of Parliamentary representatives, issuing dietary regulations in times of scarceness, and concerning themselves in a multiplicity of matters which would to-day be resented as a usurpation of the rights and privileges of the people.

As illustrations of the diversity of the powers the Vestry exercised at different times, extracts have been made and prefixed to the catalogue of the minutes. The majority will be found to require but little explanation, so that only occasional annotations are added. The first extract, dated in the year of the Spanish Armada, relates to the national defence, and is from the fly-leaf of the volume dated 1591:—

1588.—A note of money received by the Churchwardens to the payment of Robt. Carre, High Constable, for money wh. he laid out about the Setting forth Soldiers,

Received first of Mr. Ffyscher, which remayned in his hands ... ... iijl. xijs. vjd.

Wch. iijl. xijs. vjd. he the sayd Mr. Ffysher had of George Lee and Ric. Fferris out of the Church boxe ... ...

Recevide of Mr. Peireson wh. he did collect in his warde for the same purpose ... ... xxixs. ijd.

Recd of certen Constabulls wch remayned of a some delivered to them to bye soldiers appell (apparel) ... iiijs.
Receed of Mr. Collier and Mr. Lee for their ward ... ... xiiijs. xd.
Receved of Mr. Lynd wh. he hath gathered of certen constabulls and by him paid to us the said Churchwardens... iijl. iijs. xd.

* * * * * *

Paid at the mustering in tutell field the xxjth April for powder xxj li. ... ... xxjs.
Pd more for mache the same tyme v li. at iiijd. the pound... xxd.
Pd this same tyme for mending the Armour and the daggers iiijs. viijd.
Pd the xxiijth aprill, 1588, for fyfe sword girdells vs. for staving of too blacke bills xxd. and for Armyng of xi pickes xiijs. ixd. .... xxs. vd.
Pd for fyfe ould daggers ... ... iiijs.

The "better government and benefyte of the church," particularly in reference to the choice of churchwardens, was among the earliest subjects to engage attention :—

Articles of Agreement made and concluded upon the Seventhe daye of Ffebruarie, Anno Dmi, 1591, by the general assent and consent of the vestrie men and churchwardens for the tyme now beinge for better government and benefyte for the Churche as followeth, vizt. :—

1. Imprimis that noe Churchwarden hereafter shall make election or bringe in anye man to be Churchwarden but by the generall choyse and election of the vestrie men or the moste pte of them for the tyme beinge. The said Churchwardens for the tyme being to be allwaies of the said Electors.

Then follow a number of orders relating to burials, of which the subjoined is a specimen :—

8th May, 1593.—At a Vestrie the Day and yere abovesaid we the prte of the Vestriemen whose names are hereunder written it was agreed and ordeyd that whatsoever Inhabitants of this parrishe who shall happen to burrye his wife shall not claim chalendge or have any right unto his wife's pewe after hir death, but to be dysposed by the Churchwardens for the Tyme being except any such pson soe burrienge his wife be or have bene high Constable burgesse or vestrieman and it is further ordered that any such man shall reserve to himself soe that his next wife hir pewe paying within vj wekes after hir death xijd. and yerely also xijd. to the churchwardens for the same. And that whoesoever heretofore hath burried his wife and not paide xijd. according to a former order Shall alsoe lose the beneffitt of there wives pewe and the churchwardens to place whome they shall think good notwithstanding any custom or order to the contrarye confirmed by orhandes the day and yere abovesaid.

The letting of pews and charges for bells is shortly afterwards taken in hand :—

An order taken in the vestry for the prises and rates of the belles and certayne pewes the xij day of January, 1594, in the xxxvij yere of quene Elizabeth.

This order was extended at great length to various other matters relating to the letting of the said pews to women and regulating the "knylls of the grete and seconde belles."

Other orders were passed in the same year, directing the sale of the "smaller payre of organes," defining the duties of the sextons, and laying down a scale of charges for interments.

The provision of an isolation hospital, then called 'pest-house,' is undertaken by a resolution passed in 1642.

At a Vestrie holden the 24th day of July, 1642, It was ordered that the Churchwardens shall forthwith proceed to build tenne roomes in Tuthill

fields for Pesthouses neere the Shedde now there with the Garrettes over the same acording to plott (plan) in that behalfe made of Tenne houses in Range.

Th: building of fortifications "in and about the town" is found necessary as impending danger makes itself felt:—

Att a Vestrie holden the 28th day of October, 1642,

It is ordered that Leonard Braford and William Mason the present Churchwardens of the parish of St. Margarett in Westr. shall have lente unto them the summe of ffiftie pounds out of the hospitall money remayning in the black chest To be by the said Churchwardens for the building of Courts of guard and other worke and ffortificacons in and about this Towne for the safety hereof in theise times of dainger untill an Assessment may be made upon the Inhabitants to defray that charge and then that ffiftie pounds is to be repaid.

The Vestry are next found directing their attention to the relief of the poor by the sale of velvet pulpit cloth, and the brasses from the tombstones, in true Puritan style:—

At a Vestrie holden at the parish Church of St. Margaretts Westm. the 19th daie of December, 1644, it is ordered that in respect of the hardness of these times, the Churchwardens shall supplie the Overseers for the poore wh. such monyes as they can convenientlie spare for the use of the poore.

At the same Vestry it was also ordered—

That the Churchwardens shall make sale of the rich velvett pulpitt Cloath given by the Lady Hervy at the best rate they can and to accompt for the money received for the same for that is subiect to be moth eaten and decaye.

That the Churchwardens shall make sale of the brass taken off from the Tombstones and otherwise being lose in a chest to the best value they can and to account for the money.

The precaution against the velvet becoming "moth eaten" being satisfactorily arranged, the Vestry proceed to appoint the minister, and then to see the object of their patronage safely away:—

At a Vestry holden 28th August, 1647, it is ordered that Mr. John Binns, Minister, shall officiate the Cure of this parish, he having produced Certifict from sum of the Assembly of Divines to be a man of Able pts and unblameable life and conversacon.

The 13th daye of Aprill, 1649.

That the Churchwardens doe give unto John Biñns, Minister (who lately officiated in this parish) ffortie shillings towards the bearinge of his charges in his Travell to Yorkeshire, whereby this parish may be freed from any further charge in relieving him.

These entries are the more remarkable owing to the officiating Ministers having been "intruded" by Parliament between 1641 and 1646. From the last something may be gleaned of the circumstances of the clergy of the period.

At the same period the records present the Vestry in the character of usurers:—

24th March, 1647.—It is ordered that the five hundred and fiftie pounds wch was paid in by mr. Smith for Turnmill Street rents shalbe lent to Mr. Rich. Willis Mr. Henry Willis Clerke and Rich yeoward upon theyr Recognisance of 1000: deferanced for payment of the 550 li with interest at 8 p. cente for six monthes.

They next appear as governors of the house of correction (see p. 59):—

9th June, 1648.—Ordered that the Churchwardens for the tyme being shall repayre the house of Correction in Tuthill ffeilds with needfull and necessary reparacon.

Confidence being reposed in them as trustees, their business instincts lead them to become investors :—

At a Vestry holden the 16th daye of April, 1649, it is ordered that 60 li being monyes intrusted by Thomas Jordayne for the good of his children and 80 li being intrusted for Mrs. Ray alias Roper shall be lent unto William Dodson upon his and Mr. William Styles theyr securities.

And to the manifold duties already undertaken, they do not hesitate to add that of administrators of an estate :—

Att a Vestry held this xijth day of June, 1652,
Ordered that Mr. Emery Hill and Capt. Willm. Greeve the present Churchwardens of this Parish doe take out Lres. of Administration of the goods and Chattels of John Galloway Butcher (who lately died suddainely intestate) to the use of his three Children John William and Richard; And that the said Churchwardens doe deliver an inventory of his estate as they shall finde the same and doe dispose of the said children and estate as they in theyre discretions shall thinke fitt And doe make and give a particuler Accompte of the said estate from Churchwardens to Churchwardens successively untill the said children shall attaine theyre severall ages of one and Twenty years and then to pay the same respectively unto the said Children or the survivors or survivor of them as the Vestry and they shall thinke fitt.

The capacity of the Vestry for work, and their zeal for the public weal, leads them to make permanent provision for protection from fire :—

22nd August, 1657.—It is ordered by a Vestrie this day holden,
That Mr. Edward Martyn and Mr. Emery Hill shall, out of the moneys remaining in their hands Build, erect and sett upp with Bricks a little house in the parish Churchyard of St. Margaretts, Westmr., to adioyne next unto the Cage or Round house there wherein shall bee alwaies kept the twoe new fire Engines wch they were formerly ordered to buy and provide for the use and service of this parish.

The storage of weapons in the Vestry room was continued until it was found to be inconvenient. An Order was, therefore passed on Thursday, 31st October, 1667 :—

That all the Arms both offensive and Defensive And also all the Watch Matrs. now remaining in the Dark Vestry be for the better Preservation thereof Removed thence unto the House Newly Erected in the Artillery Ground in Tuttle ffields.

Out-door medical relief was dispensed under the Vestry's supervision :—

7 May, 1668.—That the Church Wardens doe give unto John Sinclere, Chyrurgeon, the summe of vs. for his Redinesse and Care in Cureing the arm of one Walter Best, a poor Man of this Parish whose Hand was Cutt off by a Souldier, and the same shall be allowed in their Accoumpt.

Sunday, 8th Sept., 1689.—That the Churchwardens pay three pounds for ye Cure of Mary Cooke when she be cured & in the meantime to Reliefe her.

17th January, 1690.—Ordered that the Chdns. do pay Mrs. Lucey Tenn poundes in full for Cures till this day.

The "worshipfull of the parish" are next discovered concerning themselves with the encouragement of the linen manufacture :—

Tuesday, 10th Sept., 1668.—For the better Incouraging and Advancing of a Linnen Manufacture in this p'sh it was this Day Concluded and Agreed upon by the Vestry That a Summe of x£ should be once every yeare (on a certain day to be p'fixed) given to such persons as could p'duce ye best pieces of Linnen Cloth and make it appeare

yt ye Same was Spunne and Woven all of it within this parish within . . . . Months last past ye sd. Summe to be Distributed to the severall persons who shall soe produce ye Linnin Cloth as below Expressed according to the Goodnesse and Fynesse of ye sd. Severall and Respective Cloaths (vizt.) For ye Finest Cloath . . . . for ye Second finest . . . . for ye third Finest. . .

Their proceedings are then varied by the exercise of a direct control over the churchyard, of which many entries are to be found:—

Wednesday, 27 April, 1670.—Whereas the ffunerall of the late Lord Genll. Monke Duke of Albemarle is shortly to be solemnized It is thereupon Ordered That the Churchwardens doe lett (to be Skaffold) soe much of the Church Yard wall as have been formerly lett by their predecessors at times of Coronations great ffuneralls or the like for the best advantage of the Poore of this Parish.

And besides the provision of hour glasses for the interior, they set up a time indicator for the public use on the exterior:—

Wednesday, 6th July, 1670.—That the present Churchwardens doe cause a Sunne Dyall to be placed on the west side of the Tower belonging to the Parish Church and the charge thereof shall be allowed in their accompt.

As the local drainage authority, the Vestry were not indifferent to the possibility of improving the primitive system of the time:—

Wednesday, 6th July, 1670.—That the present Churchwardens with anie three or more of the Vestriemen doe view the Ditch or Drayne leading from ye Easte end of the New Chappell Southward by the wall of the Artillery Ground, and consider whether it be fitt that the sayd Ditch should be Damed up or not and Report their opinion therein unto the Vestry in writing.

Their solicitude is next directed to the drink traffic:—

6th July, 1670.—That the present Churchwardens doe make what progresse they can in discovering how and howmanie Wine Licenses have usually been formerly Granted by the Cittie of Westmr. and make Report from time to time of their proceedings therein.

The condition of "the cage" at Knightsbridge is then the subject of a series of resolutions:—

1st March, 1670.—The Churchwardens haveing this day Reported (viva voce) That there is a necessity of Repayring the Cage or Round house at Knights Bridge for avoydeing the charge and trouble of Lodging of such as are to be passed away. It is thought fitt and Ordered That the Churchwardens doe cause the sayd Cage or Round house to be Repayred for this time until they can speake with ye Ld. High Steward of Westmr. or Head Bayliffe Concerning ye same. And the Charge thereof shall be allowed at ye passing of their Accompt.

18th Nov., 1698.—Ordered that the Churchwardens doe pay the constables of Knightsbridge account for straw for the cage.

Thursday, 11 Nov., 1708.—Ordered that it be referred to the Church wardens to repaire the . . . . cage at Knightsbridge and the charge thereof shall be allowed on their account.

The book referred to in the next following resolution has not found its place in the present collection, which is somewhat remarkable seeing its importance in Westminster—an importance which could not attach to any similar book elsewhere:—

Register for Touching.

Upon reading an Order of his Matie. in Councill made in the yeare 1672 whereby the Minister of every parish is appointed to kepe a register of persons touched for the evell this Vestry is of opinion that the Right of keeping the said Register is in Dr. Sprat and the Minister of the parish for the time being and that he ought to have the keeping of the said Register booke and the disposall thereof.

Whether the entry be interpreted as permissive or mandatory, the duty it refers to involved much more than appears at first sight. To Westminster it was that during the Jacobean period, thousands of scrofulous sufferers were attracted by the Orders in Council appointing "sittings" of the King for the "touching" of those who sought their cure at his hands, the sittings being nearly always held during the residence of the Court at Whitehall. From 1660 to 1664 inclusive no less than 23,601 persons were "touched," and on the return of the King to the metropolis after the plague of 1665-6, the superstitious rite was resumed so actively that 68,506 persons availed themselves of it between 1667 and 1684. The necessity for the foregoing order will therefore be easily perceived. During the reign of William III., the solemnity was partially suspended, the King "being persuaded that he should do no injury to persons afflicted with the disorder by not touching them." Yet the practice was occasionally resorted to in Queen Anne's reign, for it is stated that Dr. Johnson was brought from Lichfield to Westminster, in his infancy, to be "touched" by the Queen for the scrofulous evil, though the ceremony was of no avail.

This "royal gift of healing" is evidently referred to in *Macbeth*—

"strangely visited people,
All swoln and ulcerous, pitiful to the eye,
The mere despair of surgery, he cures;
Hanging a golden stamp about their necks
Put on with holy prayers."

Some of the writers on the subject suggest that the attraction was rather "the golden stamp" than the actual cure. Brand refers to the custom in his *Popular Antiquities* (vol. iii., p. 302-4) under the head of "Physical Charms."

The inimitable diarist, Pepys, notes under date of 10th April, 1667, "To the King's little Chapel; and afterwards to see the King heal the King's Evil (wherein no pleasure, I having seen it before) and then to see him and the Queene." And Herrick, who wrote contemporaneously, thus alludes to it:—

Now to that Hand, (the Branch of Heavens faire Tree)
I kneel for help: O! lay thine Hand on me,
Adorèd Cæsar! and my faith is such,
I shall be heal'd, if that my King but touch.
The Evill is not yours; my sorrow sings,
Mine is the Evill, but the cure the King's.

Hesperides.

The ceremony is described at length in Chambers' *Book of Days*, vol., i., pp. 82-5, where engravings are given of the identical touch-piece, obverse and reverse, given by Queen Anne to Dr. Johnson, now preserved in the British Museum.

Besides the registration of those healed of disease, the Vestry, among all their other functions, undertake the liberation of debtors from prison:—

7th October, 1674.—Upon the application of Marie, the wife of Edward Arnold, prisoner (for debt) in the King's Bench prison It is thought fitt that the Churchwardens doe endeavour to free the sayd Edward Arnold from prison att as easy Rates as they can And the charge thereof shall be allowed in their Accompt.

The enactment in the Local Government Act, 1894, requiring Vestrymen to make a Declaration upon their acceptance of office, was considered by many to be an innovation. Others knew it to be merely an adaptation of somewhat similar provisions of the Municipal Corporation Acts; but the following transcript shows that these last named Acts merely re-enacted, in effect, if not in terms, the provisions contained in the first Act relating to Vestries passed more than two centuries ago:—

5th Sept., 1677.

Know all men by these psnts. that Mr. Arthur Prior & Mr. Nehemiah Arnold of the parish of St. Margts. Westmr. in ye County of Middx. were Sworne Vestry men for ye Sayd parish before ye Rt. Worll. Sr

Rich. Lloyd Knt. Doctor of Lawes Comissary and Officiall Principall to the Worll. the Deane and Chapter of the Collegiate Church of St. Peters Westmr. on Wednesday the 13th day of June 1677.

These are to Certifie all persons whom it may concerne That this Second day of August in the yeare of Our Lord God 1677 Richard Newman Esqre Inhabitant and Parishonr of the Parish of St. Margarts Westmr. in ye County of Middx. Appeared before me Richard Lloyd Kt. Dr. of Lawes Comissary and Officiall Principall to ye Worll. ye Deane and Chapter of the Collegiate Church of St. Peters Westmr. aforesayd judicially sitting in ye Consistory Court of the sayd Deane and Chapter held in the sayd Collegiate Church of St. Peters Westmr. And was by me according to the Act of Parlmt. in that behalfe made and provided Nominated and elected a Vestry man of the sayd parish of St. Margt. in Westmr. aforesayd made and subscribed the Declaration and Acknowledgement mentioned in the sayd Act of Parliament made in the 15th yeare of ye Reigne of Sovereigne Charles ye 2nd by the Grace of God of England Scotland France and Ireland King Defender of the ffaith &c., Intituled (An Act for the Regulating Select Vestries) for witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand the Day and yeare aforesayd,

Rich Lloyd
The like verbatim
For Captn. Mich. Arnold*
Richard Pagitt Esqe
Mr. Tho Warner
Mr. Miles Mitchell
Mr. Rich Ffarthing
Mr. John Greene

Shortly afterwards (in 1680) the Vestry were allowed a voice in the nomination of the Commissioners of Hackney Coaches, the opportunity being then taken of offering some suggestions for the amendment of the law:—

Sunday, 12th Decr., 1680.—That Sr. Wm. Waller Sr John Cutler . . . . with ye Steward & High Burgesses for the time being be nominated Commrs. in St. Margarts. Westmr. for Regulating Hackney Coaches.

The heterogeneous offices the Vestry fulfilled are further illustrated by a reference which introduces them as the education authority of the day and which, at the same time, affords an insight into the conditions under which "elementary" instruction was provided:—

Sunday, the 18th day of Decr., 1681.—The Peticon of Thomas Jordan praying that he may be settled and continued in the Imployment of instructing the parish Poore Children being this day read was laid aside (It being the opinion of this Vestry that he is not capable of performing that undertaking as it ought to be done.) And upon his further Application complayning of his poverty having ffour Small Children and an Impotent sister lying on his Hands. The Vestry have thought fitt & do Accordingly Order that the said Thomas Jordan shall be relieved and have halfe a Chaldren of Coles of the stock for this yeare (he having already had one Half Chaldren of the said stock) and 2s. per weeke towards the support of his said Family Provided his said Sister doe not become chargeable to the Parish. And at the same time Judith Smith wife of Thomas Smith was presented as a fitt person to undertake the Teaching of the said Poore Children which was accordingly conferred upon her. And she to receive for her Care and Paines therein half a Chaldren of Coles (being the remainder of the Stock for this yeare) and all the moneys of Dr. Busbys yearely gift of Six Pounds that shall remaine when the Coles are paid for.

* M.P. for Westminster, 1685.

On an attempt to divert the public highway, the Vestry present themselves as conservators of the public rights. The extract chosen quite at random as evidence of this, happens to be of interest as one of the earliest mentions of "Pimlico"—the name given to that part of St. Martin-in-the-Fields (now St. George's) lying between Westminster and Chelsea. The district did not commence to be inhabited until 1680, when it first appears in St. Martin's rate books, although its name occurs in the Overseers' Accounts of that parish, in respect of a body found there, several years earlier :—

> Wednesday, 12th Oct., 1681.—The Churchwardens are desired to take care to Informe themselves when the jury do meete touching the turning of the King's Highway at Pimlicoe and imploy Mr. Rampaine thereabouts when occasion shall require.
>
> Sunday, 18th Decr., 1681.—Touching the altering of the Rode at Pimlicoe it is ordered that Mr. Augier be desired to attend Sr Christop. Wren and pray his Advice in the case.
>
> Sunday, 23rd July, 1682.—Ordered that Sir John Cutler Sir George Dowing Mr. Newman Mr. Laurence Mr. Squire or any three or more of them be desired to waite on the Rt. Honble. the Earle of Arlington Lord Chamberlaine of the King's Maties. Household to acquaint him with the ready & ffree Consent of this Vestry for the altering of the Highway at the West end of St. James's Park leading from the Towne of Knightsbridge to this parish And to make report thereof at the next Vestry.

The method of preserving a knowledge of the parish boundaries is shown by the Vestry minutes as well as by the Churchwardens' Accounts :—

> Sunday, 15th Apll, 1683.—Ordered that the Preambulation for this yeare bee kept according to the antient custom Soe that the charges doe not exceed Twenty Nobles (but no Wine) besides the charge of the bread and cheese and beere for the boyes for the Outward bounds And for the inward bounds to be kept alsoe according to the antient custome and the charges thereof to be left to the Discretion of the Churchwardens.

The following affords confirmation of the statement that two centuries ago houses adjoined St. Margaret's Church :—

> 23rd August, 1685.—The Churchwardens acquainted the Vestry that they have granted to Madam Jepson libertie to make a casement to look into the Churche for her convenency of hearing prayers as long as she inhabitts in ye house adjoining to ye Church and passage in St. Margarett's Lane.
>
> 10th June, 1691.—That Mr. Hyler suffers no persons to goe on and hang cloathes on the Church Leads and that the Churchwardens do make a ffence whereby to keepe any persons from coming on the Church Leads from St. Margts Lane Houses.

The rural character of the parish, as well as the control exercised by the Vestry over matters now regarded as entirely extraneous to the functions of the local authority, find testimony in the next transcript :—

> Sunday, May the last, 1685.—Whereas by reason of the Uncertainty of the profitts of Tyths of Hey and Corne of this Parish and the Difficulty in gathering the same, the Parsonage and Viccaridge Tyths being in two severall hands It is now ordered (nemine contradicente) that Dr. Nich Only shall and may have and enjoy the said Tyths of Hey and Corne for the tearme of Tenn yeares if he shall soe long continue Viccar of this Parish at the yearely Rent and Acknowledgment of One Shilling P. Ann. and that the Dr. may have libertie to take Course in the Leassees names for all arrears of Tyths.

The Vestry were not always grave, however. Their mutability was, in fact, remarkable, for the ease with which they passed "from grave to gay" is testified by their readiness to promote, on occasion, the enjoyment of the community :—

> Saturday, 23rd March, 1688-9.—Ordered that the Churchwardens doe provide a Hogshead of Clarett and other things usuall att the Coronation

(William III. and Mary) and the charges thereof to be allowed in their account.

But the passage "from lively to severe" was equally easy. The following extracts, on a simple matter show how rigidly, regardless of conscientious convictions, the petty persecution of non-conformists was enforced:—

10th September, 1690.—The Churchwardens did this day make report that they have appointed Ann Alwyn to be a searcher in the Roome of the widdow Cooper decd, and they had placyd her in the Roome belonging to the Searchers in Tuttlefields which was approved by the Vestry.

5th November, 1690.—Ordered that the new Searcher Ann Alwyn have time given her till the first Sunday of the next month to receive the Sacramt. and Conforme to the Church of England Or otherwise that another be admitted in her roome.

21st December, 1690.—Ordered that the Widow Langstone be admitted into the place of Searcher in the roome of the Widow Alwyn.

In the retrospect of the Overseers' Accounts at page 81, and in the specimens thereof at page 82, reference is made to the permissive begging countenanced by the law two centuries ago. Among all the other claims upon them, or duties arrogated to themselves, the Vestry found time to regulate this:—

6th Jany., 1691-2.—That the Churchwardens and Overseers of the poor cause all psons who receve Almes of this parish to wear Badges or not relieve them.

6th July, 1692.—That Mr. Peter Rudge pay to Mr. Fouler for badges for the poor ffour pounds tenn shillings and eight pence.

26 Aug., 1694.—Whereas the poor of this parish are unknown to ye inhabitants, and several receive alms who are not really necessitous, It is ordered (nemine contradicente) that all such persons who are in any sort of pension or pay payable by the Overseers of the poor shall constantly wear badges on the outer part of their garment, and that if they or any of them shall by ye Beadles be found in the streets without such badges, that they be immediately discharged of the allowances usually paid them.

Even the care of lunatics was not considered beyond their jurisdiction, though the charge of extravagance in the matter of bedding cannot be laid against them:—

1st March, 1692-3.—That Mr. Redding, Governor of the House of Correction doe provide a Roome for one Pudsey, a Lunatick, committed to his custody, his ffriends providing him Victualls, and psh allowing the straw.

Another entry proves that the furniture of lunacy wards was not the only matter in which the Vestry practised economy. Nothing is said of the circumstances which gave occasion for the resolution:—

Sept. 7, 1697.—Ordered that the churchwardens for the time to come allow but a pint of Canary to any Bishop that shall preach in our Church and no more than half a pint of canary for our own minister and others.

The jealousy with which the Vestry guarded the property of the parishioners in the churchyard appears from the following:—

April 10, 1702.—Whereas it has been represented to this Vestry by the Churchwardens that they had recd. a message from the Dean and Chapter importing that it was expected that leave should be asked of the Dean and Chapter for the building scaffolds on the ground in the Churchyard for the coronation. Now We the said Vestry having inspected our Books of Precedents and discoursed several Churchwardens that have been concerned in letting the said ground at the

two last coronations and the funeral of the late Queen cannot find either by our books or the said persons that any leave hath at any time been asked of the said Chapter for that purpose. Therefore We, the said Vestry, being satisfied in our title to the said ground will stand by the said Churchwardens in what they have done in pursuance of the order of the six and twentieth day of March last in reference to the said ground.

It was probably the independence they enjoyed, and the extensive powers they exercised which attracted the wealthier inhabitants to seek seats upon the Board, and to mark their sense of the importance of the position by donations for the benefit of the parish in the manner shown by the minute of 12th July, 1712, which is but a specimen of many others:—

Thomas Green, Esq., being chosen a Vestryman of this Parish and haveing given the sum of Twenty Pounds to some Publick Charity within this Parish,

Ordd.—That the said Twenty Pounds according to the desire of the said Mr. Green be given to the Grey Coat Hospitall and the Blew Coat Boys belonging to the Chappel School in the proporcons hereinafter menconed (vizt.) Three fourths parts being Fifteen Pounds to the Grey Coat Hosptl. and the other fourth part being Five Pounds to the Boys belonging to the Blew Coat School.

Ordd.—That the Churchwardens be desired to wait on the said Thomas Green, Esq., and Return him thanks from this Vestry for the same.

A later entry shows the Vestry concerning themselves in the temporary detention of persons arrested by the peace officers:—

23rd October, 1727.—The Churchwardens having represented to the Vestry that by reason of their being but one Round-house for the Confinement of persons taken up in the Night time, it often happens that ye Peace Officers when they have prisoners of both sexes, are obliged to carry one of them to ye Gatehouse to the great Expence of many poor people by the Exorbitant Fees there.

And that there is Room with a Small Expence to erect another Prison or Roundhouse out of the Bonehouse which will be very fit for that purpose.

Ordd. that the Church Wardens do cause such Room to be partitioned of with a Brick Wall from ye said Bonehouse and otherwise strengthened and made a fit place of Security and the charge shall be Allowed on their Account.

Numerous entries tell of the extent to which the Vestry assumed the character of politicians by guiding the electors in the choice of representatives in Parliament. In some cases the candidates thought it prudent, before introducing themselves, to forward a substantial sum to be used for the benefit of the parish at the discretion of the Vestry; in others the Vestry would order the beadles to distribute handbills on behalf of the candidates, and would solemnly register their determination to exert themselves to secure the applicant's return; and it is noticeable that their support was generally accorded to the successful competitors. The following, taken quite at random, are specimens of such entries:—

21st July, 1727.—The Rt. Honble. Charles Lord Cavendish and Wm. Clayton Esq. were introduced into the Vestry and offered their Service as Candidates at ye Ensuing Election of Members to represent this City and Liberty in Parliament.

May 1, 1741.—Resolved unanimously that this Vestry will support the interest of the said Rt. Honble the Lord Sundon and the Right Honble Sr. Charles Wager who have offered themselves as candidates to represent this City and Liberty in the ensuing Parliament. In which resolution they desire the concurrence of all the inhabitants of this parish, and that they would meet them at Nine of the Clock tomorrow

morning in St. Margaret's Church Yard, in order to attend those candidates to the place of Election.

Ordd. That 2000 of the above resolution be forthwith printed and distributed amongst the inhabitants of this parish.

Ordd. that the several Bedels of this Parish have orders to attend in their proper Livery in St. Margaret's Church Yd. to morrow morning at Nine o'clock to receive the directions of this Vestry.

Sat., 21 Mch., 1761.—The Honble. Lord Viscount Poultney and Lieut.-Genl. Cornwallis were introduced (by Sir John Crosse Bart.) to this Vestry and offered themselves as joint Candidates to represent the City and Liberty of Westminster in the next Parliament and desired the Votes and Interest of the Members of this Vestry.

Resolved unanimously That this Vestry will support the Interest of the said Candidates to Represent the City and Liberty of Westminster in Parliament.

Fri., 4 Dec., 1761.—The Churchwardens acquainted this Vestry that the Honble. Lord Pulteney and Lieut.-Genl. Cornwallis had generously offered the sum of Fifty Pounds between this Parish & the Parish of St. John the Evangelist to be disposed of in such manner as the Vestries should think fit.

The circumstances under which the market in the Broadway (see p. 24) was obtained may be gathered from the minutes copied below, the second of which indicates that the Vestry acted as the authority for settling the tolls :—

24th October, 1733.—John Lawton and Mark Frecker Esqrs., from the Committee of Vestry appointed to Solicit for the Grant of a Haymarkett in the Broadway, Westmr. acquainted the Vestry that by the particular favour and Interest of the Right Honble. Sir Robert Walpole, the Right Honble Sir Charles Wager and the Right Honble. William Clayton Esq. they had obtained a Patent (with a Remission of the Fees amounting to the Sume of One hundred and One pounds twelve shillings and Eight pence) from his Majesty under the Great Seal for holding three Marketts in every Week Weekly for the Selling of Hay and Straw in the Broadway aforesaid for the term of Thirty One Years from the first of October instant, which Patent is granted in the Names of the said John Lawton and Mark Frecker Esqrs. their Execrs. Admrs. and Assigns in Trust for the Poor of this Parish.

27th October, 1733.—Ordd. That the Toll for the Hay and Straw to be brought to the Markett in the Broadway be fixed as follows, vizt., for every Cart Loaded with Hay three pence and for every Cart Loaded with Straw two pence.

If further evidence were required of the extraordinary diversity of topics on which the Vestry actively interested themselves, it is afforded by the subjoined. The warrant for the collection referred to is scheduled at p. 24 :—

10th May, 1733.—It having been requested by the Trustees for Establishing a Colony in Georgia for the Minister, Churchwardens and principal Inhabitants of this Parish to take Subscriptions and to gather and collect money for the said Charity.

It is Agreed That this Vestry will give them Assistance therein provided the said Corporation do furnish them with proper powers.

The story of the east window of St. Margaret's Church, as told in Dr. Wilson's *Ornaments of Churches considered* (1761) and in Walcott's *Memorials of Westminster* (pp. 103-5), with the account of the litigation relating to it, is too long to be given here ; but the action of the Vestry as recorded in their minutes will not be considered out of place, particularly as it tells of a valuable addition to the parish plate which is still preserved and used on occasion :—

Saturday, 5th August, 1758.—Ordered—That the Church Wardens do cause the sale of the Altar-piece and great East Window to be Advertised,

and the Church Wardens have hereby Power to sell the same for the best prices they can get.

Monday, 29 January, 1759.—The Church Wardens acquainted this Vestry that they had been Menaced with a prosecution in the Ecclesiastical Court for suffering the painted Window at the East end of St. Margarets Church to be put up.

Resolved That this Vestry will indemnify and save the Church Wardens harmless against any Prosecution or other proceedings that may be commenced against them, on account of the putting up the said Window or anything relating thereto.

Saturday, 17 Decr., 1763.—Samuel Pierson, Esq. (a Member of this Vestry) In Testimony of the great Regard he bears to the Parish of St. Margaret, Westminster, of which he had the honour of being chosen Churchwarden for seven successive years, this Day in Person Presented to the Vestry as his Free Gift, a large Silver Cup and Cover, Gilt with Gold, To be used at all Parochial Entertainments of the Minister, Churchwardens and Vestrymen of this Parish, as they occasionally may happen for time to come.

Resolved that the Unanimous Thanks of this Vestry be and they are hereby returned to Mr. Pierson for this signal and valuable mark of his favour and regard for this Parish.

Resolved that the Churchwardens be desired to cause the following Inscription to be engraved on the said Cup and Cover, (viz.):—

Round the Cover.—In the year of our Lord, 1764.

On the Body of the Cup.—This Cup and Cover was given to the Churchwardens of the Parish of St. Margaret, Westminster and their successors for ever (to be made use of by the Vestry at their Parochial Entertainments) by Samuel Pierson, Esq. In Testimony of his great regard for the Parish of which he was unanimously chosen Churchwarden for seven Successive Years.

In this connection a notice of the appointment of the notorious John Wilkes as Churchwarden may be admitted. While sitting as Member of Parliament for Aylesbury, he was elected upon the Vestry on the 27th June, 1758. His first attendance as Vestryman was on 14th December, 1758; within five months he was chosen Churchwarden, with Mr. Samuel Pierson as his colleague. At the end of the year a cordial vote of thanks was unanimously accorded to Mr. Pierson for his "great and most signal services done in the faithfull execution of his office." Not a syllable is recorded concerning the retirement of the great agitator, nor is he nominated for re-election, in which respect he is an exception to the custom prevailing at the time. Whatever his success in other spheres, the Vestry minutes imply that he was voted a failure as churchwarden.

As censors of the pastimes of a section of the community the Vestry were no less active than in their manifold other self-imposed duties:—

9th April, 1792.—Robert Abington Esq. having received a Letter from St. Lawrence Cox, an inhabitant of Great Peter Street, Westminster, relative to a Nuisance practised in the said Street of Dog Fighting, Bear and Badger Baiting, which being Read,

Resolved—That the most effectual means be taken by Presentment Indictment or otherwise to suppress a House in Great Peter Street, Westminister, where Dog Fighting, Bear and Badger Baiting are constantly practised to the continual alarm of the Inhabitants.

A code of rules for the economical use of food for man and beast is not considered beyond the province of the Vestry, who exercised a free hand in applying the rates to the reduction of prices:—

Tuesday, 27th Jan. 1795.—Resolved that Bread be sold to Poor People who shall be recommended by Subscribers at Six pence the Quartern, and Meat, (vizt.) Thin Flanks, Briskets, Leg of Mutton pieces, Clods, and Breasts of Mutton at Three pence the pound, and the difference to be

Paid by the Treasurer, the Bread according to Assize price, and the meat after the Rate of Three Shillings p. stone.

Friday, 12th December 1800.—These Vestries were summoned for the purpose of taking into consideration His Majesty's most Gracious Proclamation when the following Resolutions were unanimously agreed to viz. :—

That our best Endeavours shall be exerted towards carrying into full and immediate effect the salutory injunctions contained in His Majesty's most gracious Proclamation. We do therefore in conformity thereto hereby agree that we will at the utmost, restrict the consumption of Bread in our respective Families to two thirds of the quantity consumed in ordinary times, and that we will in no case suffer the same to exceed One Quartern Loaf for each Person in each week.

That we will abstain from the Use of Pastry and will carefully restrict the Use of Flour in all other Articles than Bread.

That we will adopt and promote, to the utmost of our power, the use of Substitutes for Wheaten Bread and a strict Economy in the consumption of every Article of Subsistence.

That we will confine the allowance of Oats for Horses to five Pecks at the utmost per Week for each Horse and reduce it as far below as circumstances will admit.

That these Resolutions shall continue in force until the first day of October One thousand Eight hundred and one.

In pursuance of the opinion registered by the underwritten, the Vestry engaged themselves in the responsibilities of election officers when the parishioners were polled for the choice of lecturers, to which many references occur in the minutes :—

Monday, 15 Dec., 1801.—The Churchwardens reported that by the Death of the Revd. Dr. Smith a Vacancy has occurred in the Office of Lecturer.

Resolved that it is the Opinion of this Vestry that the right of Election of Lecturer of this Parish is in the Inhabitants rated to the Parochial Taxes.

But the time has arrived for placing a limit upon these extracts, which might be continued to the extent of a respectable volume, so great is the variety; and as the more entertaining 'selections' of the present day usually end with the National Anthem, so these may conclude with one which, being accidentally discovered at the opportune moment, may be allowed to gravitate to its appropriate position :—

15 Oct., 1748.—1748 the Churchwardens are authorised to cause the repair of the Chimes, they to be set to "the Tune of that Loyal Song called GOD SAVE THE KING."

No.	Title or Nature of Record.	Year.	Shelf.
2413	Orders or Minutes of Vestry, St. Margaret	1591 to 1661	38
2414	" " "	1661 to 1674	
2415	" " " (quarterly)	... 1692	
2416	" " "	1674 to 1693	
2417	" " "	1693 to 1706	
2418	" " "	1706 to 1716	
2419	Minutes, St. Margaret's Vestry	1724 to 1738	
2420	" " (St. John's at end) ...	1738 to 1755	
2421	" "	1755 to 1774	
2422	" "	1774 to 1790	
2423	" "	1790 to 1798	

No.	Title or Nature of Record.	Year.	Shelf.
2424	Minutes, St. Margaret's Vestry	1805 to 1817	38
2425	" "	1817 to 1829	
2426	" "	1829 to 1838	
2427	" "	1839 to 1851	
2428	" "	1852 to 1866	
2429	" "	1784 to 1787	
2430	" "	1790 to 1795	
2431	" "	1795 to 1805	
2432	" "	1668 to 1682	37
2433	" "	1682 to 1694	
2434	" "	1829 to 1848	
2435	" Joint Vestries	1817 to 1834	
2436	" "	1834 to 1848	
2437	" "	1848 to 1851	
2438	" "	1852 to 1856	
2439	" "	1856 to 1864	
2440	" "	1864 to 1870	
2441	Minutes, St. Margaret's and St. John's	1746 to 1758	
2442	" St. Margaret's (marked Joint)	1752 to 1772	
2443	" St. Margaret's (marked Rough)	1758 to 1774	
2444	" Joint Vestries	1790 to 1795	
2445	" "	1795 to 1805	
2446	" "	1805 to 1816	
2447	" "	1816 to 1828	
2448	" "	1828 to 1836	
2449	" "	1825 to 1835	
2450	" "	1835 to 1845	
2451	" "	1815 to 1825	
2452	" " (unbound)	1762 to 1801	
2453	Minutes, Rough, Finance Committee and St. Margaret's Vestry	1852 to 1879	
2454	Minutes, Rough, Vestries and Committees	1880 to 1883	
2455	" " "	1883 to 1886	
2456	Minutes, Rough, St. John's Vestry	1817 to 1826	36
2457	" " "	1839 to 1852	
2458	" " "	1880 to 1887	
2459	Minutes, Audit Committee	... 1855	

No.	Title or Nature of Record.	Year.	Shelf.
2460	Minutes, St. John's Vestry, containing copies of Joint Minutes "A"	1728-37	35
2461	" " " " "B"	1738-47	
2462	" " " " "C"	1747-64	
2463	" " " " "D"	1765-78	
2464	" " " " "E"	1779-92	
2465	" " " " "F"	1792-1802	
2466	" " " " "G"	1803-1812	
2467	" " " " "H"	1812-1818	
2468	" " " "	1818-1824	
2469	" " " "	1824-1831	
2470	" " " "	1831-1839	
2471	" " " "	1840-1847	
2472	" " " "	1847-1848	
2473	" " " "	1848-1852	
2474	" " " "	1852-1864	
2475	" " " "	1865-1882	
2476	Minutes, District Board of Works	1855	34
2477	Minutes, Finance Committee, District Board of Works	1856 to 1861	
2478	" " " "	1862 to 1867	
2479	" " " "	1868 to 1872	
2480	" " " "	1872 to 1877	
2481	Minutes, Works Committee, District Board of Works, No. 1	1856 to 1857	
2482	" " " No. 2	1858 to 1859	
2483	" " " " 3	1860 to 1862	
2484	" " " " 4	1862 to 1865	
2485	" " " " 5	1865 to 1868	
2486	" " " " 6	1868 to 1871	
2487	" " " " 7	1871 to 1874	
2488	" " " " 8	1874 to 1877	
2489	" " " " 9	1877 to 1880	
2490	" " " " 10	1880 to 1883	
2491	" " " " 11	1883 to 1886	
2492	Minutes, Nuisance Removal Committee, District Board of Works	1856 to 1861	33
2493	" " " "	1861 to 1867	

No.	Title or Nature of Record.	Year.	Shelf.
2494	Minutes, Sanitary Committee, District Board of Works	1867 to 1868	33
2495	Minutes, Street Cleansing and Watering Committee, District Board of Works	1867 to 1868	
2496	Minutes, Special Committees, District Board of Works	1867 to 1870	
2497	Minutes, Auditors, District Board of Works	1857 to 1868	
2498	Minutes, Diseases Prevention Committee, District Board of Works (Cholera)	1866	
2499	Minutes, Diseases Prevention Committee (Rough), District Board of Works	1866	
2500	Minutes (Rough), Nuisance Removal, District Board of Works	1856 to 1861	
2501	" " " "	1861 to 1866	
2502	Minutes (Rough), Street Cleansing and Sanitary, District Board of Works	1868 to 1870	
2503	" " " "	1870 to 1875	
2504	" " " "	1875 to 1882	
2505	" " " "	1885 to 1889	
2506	Minutes (Rough), Finance Committee, District Board of Works	1856 to 1862	
2507	" " " "	1862 to 1867	
2508	" " " "	1868 to 1872	
2509	" " " "	1872 to 1882	
2510	" " " "	1886 to 1888	
2511	Minutes (Rough), Special Committees, District Board of Works	1856 to 1868	32
2512	" " " "	1867 to 1868	
2513, 2514	Minutes, Land Tax (2 books)	1689 to 1690	
2515	" "	1692-3	
2516	" "	1693 to 1695	
2517	Minutes, Land and Poll Tax	1694 to 1695	
2518	Minutes, Land Tax	1698 to 1699	
2519	" "	1699 to 1702	
2520	" "	1705 to 1709	
2521	" "	1709 to 1711	
2522	" "	1711 to 1713	
2523	" "	1713 to 1715	

No.	Title or Nature of Record.	Year.	Shelf.
2524	Minutes, Land Tax	1715 to 1719	32
2525	Minutes, Land Tax, including Minutes of the "Roman Catholic Act," 1723	1719 to 1730	
2526	Minutes, Land Tax	1730 to 1742	
2527	" "	1742 to 1751	
2528	" "	1751 to 1773	
2529	" "	1773 to 1788	
2530	" "	1788 to 1799	
2531	" "	1799 to 1809	
2532	Minutes of Land Tax Commissioners, marked "A"	1698 to 1722	
2533	" " " "B"	1722 to 1745	
2534	" " " "C"	1745 to 1771	
2535	" " "	1772 to 1791	
2536	" " "	1792 to 1826	
2537	Minutes, Land Tax, Book of Offices, Exchequer and City and Liberty of Westminster	1719 to 1730	31
2538	" " " "	1731 to 1744	
2539	" " " "	1744 to 1758	
2540	Minutes, Land Tax, Book of Offices, Exchequer and King's Bench	1758 to 1772	
2541	" " " "	1772 to 1785	
2542	" " " "	1785 to 1797	
2543	" " " "	1797 to 1809	
2544	" " " "	1809 to 1821	
2545	" " " "	1821 to 1829	
2546	" " " "	1815 to 1818	
2547	" " " "	1819 to 1821	
2548	" " " "	1821 to 1822	
2549	Minutes, Window Tax Commissioners	1696 to 1711	
2550	" " "	1711 to 1716	
2551	" " "	1729 to 1748	
2552	" " "	1774 to 1783	
2553	" " "	1783 to 1799	
2554	Minutes, Petty Sessions	1707 to 1717	
2555	" "	1717 to 1727	
2556	" "	1727 to 1746	
2557	" "	1746 to 1772	

No.	Title or Nature of Record.	Year.	Shelf.
2558	Minutes, Petty Sessions	1773	31
2559	„ „	1762	
2560	„ „	1801	
2561	Register of Passes to and from St. Margaret's	1713 to 1729	30
2562	„ „ „	1729 to 1740	
2563	„ „ „	1741 to 1755	
2564	„ „ „	1756 to 1766	
2565	Register of Securities	1657 to 1705	
2566	Register of Apprentices, St. Margaret's and St. John's ...	1767 to 1792	
2567	Vessels, list of, arriving at the Nore, with names of masters	1762 to 1767	

[The discovery of this among the parochial records is explained by the fact that the clerk to the Trustees of the Westminster Fish Market was also the Vestry clerk, and that this book, with other records of the market, found its way among those of the Vestry. The market was set up by the authority of Parliament (22 George II., cap. 49), but succumbed to the opposition of "the trade" at Billingsgate. Among the many powers obtained by the Trustees was that of registering fishing vessels and their cargoes at the Nore and Gravesend, so as to keep them under supervision on their way to Westminster. The vicissitudes of the enterprise are sufficiently reviewed in the *Parochial Memorials of St. John, Westminster*, pp. 500-502; but it may be added that the market, with its landing place, stalls, and other accessories, was held on the spot now covered by the St. Stephen's Club.]

2568	Register of Baptisms	1663-1669	
2568A	A book of miscellaneous entries, relating to bonds, charity properties, orphans and bastards, petty disbursements on account of charities, an imperfect list of churchwardens, collectors, overseers, &c., &c., of various dates between	1579 and 1651	
2569	Workhouse, Admission and Discharge Books	1843-4	
2570	„ „ „	1845	
2571	„ „ „	1846	
2572	„ „ „	1847	
2573	Workhouse Master's Rules and Orders and MS. forms of Petitions, Indentures, etc.	1746-1766	
2574	Depositions relating to Bastards...	1711 to 1718	
2575	„ „	1718 to 1722	
2576	„ „	1722 to 1725	
2577	„ „	1725 to 1735	
2578	„ „	1735 to 1749	
2579	Taxes, Exchequer and King's Bench, Book of Offices, yearly salary and profits (duplicate)	1714 to 1726	29

TITLE PAGE OF CHURCHWARDENS' ACCOUNTS, 1740-41, WITH ARMS OF ACCOUNTANTS.

No.	Title or Nature of Record.	Year.	Shelf.
2580	Taxes, Exchequer and King's Bench, Book of Offices, yearly salary and profits (duplicate)	1727 to 1741	29
2581	" " " "	1742 to 1756	
2582	" " " "	1742 to 1756	
2583	" " " (collecting book)	1757 to 1769	
2584	" " " (duplicate)	1757 to 1769	
2585	Minutes, Land Tax (Rough)	1757 to 1759	
2586	" "	1759 to 1762	
2587	" "	1762 to 1766	
2588	" "	1767 to 1771	
2589	" "	1771 to 1775	
2590	" "	1775 to 1779	
2591	" "	1779 to 1782	
2592	" "	1782 to 1785	
2593	" "	1799 to 1806	
2594	" "	1811 to 1814	
2595	" "	1821 to 1831	
2596	Minutes, Taxes Commissioners	1804 to 1813	
2597	" "	1814 to 1822	
2598	" "	1822 to 1828	
2599	Taxes, Book of Appeals	1835 to 1841	
2600, 2601	" Salaries, Pensions, etc., Account (2 books) ...	... No date.	
2602	" Commissioners' Order Book	1822 to 1824	
2603	" Account of sums collected and paid to Receiver	1823 to 1827	
2604	" " " "	1823 to 1828	
2605	" Land, 10 years' account (parcel)	1810 to 1824	
	" Land, calculations of (parcel)		
2606	" Pensions, Account of	1729 to 1751	28
2607	" Land Tax, Collector's Account	1758 to 1769	
2608	" Pensions Account	1785 to 1791	
2609	" "	1790 to 1796	
2610, 2611	" Exchequer Book (2 books)	1797	
2612, 2613	" Exchequer Book (2 books)	1798	
2614	" "	1801-1807	
2615, 2616	" Land Tax (2 books)	No date.	

No.	Title or Nature of Record.	Year.	Shelf.
2617	Minutes, Armed Association Committee	1798	28

[This book, with the papers and documents in the Box No. 3, gives a view of "Westminster on the defensive" at the time of the threatened Napoleonic invasion. The formation of the Volunteer corps of the day, the presentation of their colours, their review in Hyde Park, and the patriotic enthusiasm of "our Vestry," in supporting the movement—how they were "stirred up with the high hopes of being brave men and worthy patriots, dear to and famous to all ages"—are all noticed in the rough sketch given in *St. John's Memorials* It may be added here that a copy of everything that was in duplicate was presented to the Colonel Commandant of the Queen's Westminster Volunteer Corps a few years ago, as the successors to the Armed Association whose colours, long lost to sight, now find an honoured place in St. Margaret's Church.]

2618	Minutes of Committee *re* new Westminster Bridge	1747	
2619	" of Committee for conducting works in St. Margaret's Church	1758	
2620	" of Church Rate Committee	1823 to 1826	
2621	" " "	1827 to 1829	
2622	" of Committee St. John's Church *re* the fire	1742	

[The particulars of the destruction of St. John's Church by fire, with a view of the ruins, are given in *St. John's Memorials*, pp. 32-36.]

2623	Minutes of Commissioners for recruiting land forces and marines	1744 to 1745	
2624	" " " " ...	1756	
2625	" of Committee for repair of St. Margaret's Church	1798 to 1803	
2626	" " " St. John's ...	1744-5	
2627	" of Committee *re* Richmond Terrace	1826	
2628	" of Churchwardens and Overseers monthly meetings	1741	
2629	" of Committee upon Westminster Improvements ...	1840	
2630	" " " "	1847 to 1853	
2631	" " " "	1853 to 1855	
2632	" Workhouse	1726	
2633	" "	1727 to 1730	
2634	" "	1730 to 1736	
2635	" "	1736 to 1740	
2636	" "	1740 to 1742	
2637	" "	1740 to 1746	
2638	" "	1746 to 1749	
2639	" "	1749 to 1752	27
2640	" " Governors of the Poor ...	1852 to 1853	
2641	" of Committee for providing additions to Workhouse	1805-6	

No.	Title or Nature of Record.	Year.	Shelf.
2642	Minutes of Committee for erecting addition to Workhouse...	1814	27
2643	Minutes, Watch	1736 to 1766	
2644	„ „	1763 to 1770	
2645	„ „	1771 to 1775	
2646	„ „	1775 to 1779	
2647	„ „	1784 to 1786	
2648	„ „	1791 to 1808	
2649	„ „	1808 to 1822	
2650	„ „	1822 to 1829	
2651	Minutes, Parochial Offices Committee (Town Hall) ...	1876-83	
2652	„ „ Sub-Committee	1883-84	
2653	Minutes, Joint Vestry Finance Committee	1873-78	
2654	Minutes, Special Committee *re* Westminster Improvement Commissioners	1879-80	
2655	Register of Communications received	1884-9	
2656	Account of Lettings of Town Hall	1885-7	
2657	Account of Applications (Town Hall hire)	1887-91	
2658	Cash Book (Town Hall hire)	1883-87	
2659	Minutes, Paving Committee	1771 to 1779	140
2660	„ „	1779 to 1791	
2661	„ „	1791 to 1798	
2662	„ „	1798 to 1803	
2663	„ „	1804 to 1812	
2664	„ „	1813 to 1823	
2665	„ „	1824 to 1833	
2666	„ „	1834 to 1835	
2667	Minutes, Westminster Paving Commissioners, copies ...	1779	
2668	„ „ „ „	1782	
2669	„ „ „ „	1782	
2670	„ „ „ (rough)	1831 to 1835	
2671	Agenda, Paving Commissioners	1774 to 1778	
2672	„ „	1778 to 1782	
2673	„ „	1782 to 1793	
2674	„ „	1793 to 1807	
2675	„ „	1808 to 1826	
2676	„ „	1826 to 1835	
2677	Minutes, Westminster Paving Commissioners	1762 to 1765	141

No.	Title or Nature of Record.	Year.	Shelf.
2678	Minutes, Westminster Paving Commissioners	1765 to 1767	141
2679	" " "	1767 to 1770	
2680	" " "	1770 to 1771	
2681	" " "	... 1771-2	
2682	" " "	... 1772-3	
2683	" " "	... 1773-4	
2684	" " "	... 1774-5	
2685	" " "	... 1775-6	
2686	" " "	... 1776-8	
2687	" " "	1778 to 1780	
2688	" " "	... 1781-3	
2689	" " "	1783 to 1787	
2690	" " "	1787 to 1790	
2691	" " "	1790 to 1794	
2692	" " "	1894 to 1897	
2693	" " "	1798 to 1805	
2694	" " "	1806 to 1816	
2695	" " "	1816 to 1829	
2696	" " "	1830 to 1835	
2697	Minutes, Westminster Paving Commissioners, Index to...	1762 to 1765	142
2698	" " " " ...	1765 to 1767	
2699	" " " " ...	1767 to 1770	
2700	" " " " ...	1770 to 1771	
2701	" " " " ...	1771 to 1772	
2702	" " " " ...	1772 to 1773	
2703	" " " " ...	1773 to 1774	
2704	" " " " ...	1774 to 1775	
2705	" " " " ...	1775 to 1776	
2706	" " " " ...	1776 to 1778	
2707	" " " " ...	1778 to 1780	
2708	" " " " ...	1781 to 1783	
2709	" " " " ...	1783 to 1787	
2710	" " " " ...	1787 to 1790	
2711	" " " " ...	1790 to 1794	
2712	" " " " ...	1794 to 1797	
2713	" " " " ...	1798 to 1803	
2714	" " " " ...	1813 to 1823	

No	Title or Nature of Record.	Year.	Shelf.
2715	Minutes, Westminster Paving Commissioners, Index to	1824 to 1833	142
2716	" " " " ...	1834 to 1835	
2717	Minutes, St. John's Paving Commissioners ...	1782 to 1792	
2718	" " " " ...	1793 to 1806	
2719	" " " " ...	1806 to 1813	
2720	" " " " ...	1813 to 1817	
2721	" " " " ...	1817 to 1821	
2722	" " " " ...	1821 to 1824	
2723	" " " " ...	1824 to 1827	
2724	" " " " ...	1827 to 1831	
2725	" " " " ...	1831 to 1836	
2726	" " " " ...	1836 to 1843	
2727	" " " " ...	1843 to 1848	
2728	" " " " ...	1848 to 1853	
2729	Minutes, St. John, Finance and Paving Committee ...	1839 to 1852	
2730	Minutes, St. John (rough), Paving Commission Nuisances Committee	1848 to 1852	
2731	Accounts, Treasurer's, Paving Committee (Fowler) ...	1762 to 1768	143
2732	" " "	1768 to 1769	
2733	" " "	1769 to 1775	
2734	" " "	1770 to 1782	
2735	Accounts, Treasurer's, Paving Committee (Craig) ...	1787 to 1792	
2736	" " "	1793 to 1800	
2737	" " "	1800 to 1807	
2738	" " "	1807 to 1823	
2739	Accounts, Treasurer's, Paving Committee	1782 to 1790	
2740	" " "	1790 to 1798	
2741	" " "	1793 to 1805	
2742	" " "	1806 to 1814	
2743	" " "	1814 to 1823	
2744	Paving Committee Optional Streets, Ledger	1793 to 1804	
2745	" " "	1805 to 1821	
2746	" " "	1821 to 1835	
2747	" " "	1788 to 1813	
2748	" " "	1813 to 1835	
2749	An Index to paving ledgers, no date	...	
2750	Paving Committee, Receiver's Cash Book	1763 to 1765	

No.	Title or Nature of Record.	Year.	Shelf.
2751	Paving Committee, Interest Account	1770-1	143
2752	" " "	1771-3	
2753	" " "	1782	
2754	Paving Committee, General Balance Account ...	1828 to 1835	136
2755	Paving Committee, Optional Streets, Journal ...	1788 to 1813	
2756	Letter Book, District Board (No. 1, Feb. 5th to June 4th) ...	1856	99
2757	" " (No. 2, June 4th to June 13th)	1856 to 1857	
2758	" " (No. 3, June 13th to Oct. 29th)	1857 to 1858	
2759	" " (No. 4, Oct. 28th to April 4th)	1858 to 1860	
2760	" " (No. 5, April 16th to May 28th)	1860 to 1861	
2761	" " (No. 6, June 1st to July 22nd)	1861 to 1862	
2762	" " (No. 7, July 30th to Feb. 15th)	1862 to 1864	
2763	" " (No. 8, Feb. 15th to Dec. 1st)	1864 to 1865	
2764	" " (No. 9, Dec. 4th to Aug. 1st)	1865 to 1866	
2765	" " (No. 10, Aug. 2nd to April 13th)	1866 to 1867	
2766	" " (No. 11, April 15th to March 16th)	1867 to 1868	
2767	" " (No. 12, March 16th to Nov. 17th)	1868 to 1870	
2768	" " (No. 13, Nov. 17th to Dec. 4th)	1870 to 1871	
2769	" " (No. 14, Dec. 6th to April 10th)	1871 to 1873	
2770	" " (No. 15, April 16th to June 18th)	1873 to 1874	
2771	" " (No. 16, June 20th to May 7th)	1874 to 1875	
2772	" " (No. 17, May 10th to May 6th)	1875 to 1876	
2773	" " (No. 18, May 8th to April 1st)	1876 to 1877	
2774	" " (No. 19, April 6th to July 20th)	1877 to 1878	
2775	" " (No. 20, July 19th to Sept. 8th)	1878 to 1879	
2776	" " (No. 21, Sept. 12th to June 23rd)	1879 to 1881	
2777	" " (No. 22, June 24th to Jan. 23rd)	1881 to 1883	98

No.	Title or Nature of Record.	Year.	Shelf.
2778	Letter Book, District Board (No. 23, Jan. 23rd to June 27th	1883 to 1884	98
2779	„ „ (No. 24, June 27th to March 26th)	1884 to 1885	
2780	„ „ (No. 25, March 27th to Jan. 19th)	1885 to 1886	
2781	„ „ (No. 26, March 11th to Jan. 26th)	1886 to 1887	
2782	„ „ (No. 27, Jan. 26th to Aug. 8th) ...	1887	
2783	„ „ (No. 28, Aug. 9th to March 25th)	1887 to 1888	
2784	„ Vestries (No. 1, Jan. 7th to Nov. 25th) ...	1873 to 1874	
2785	„ „ (No. 2, Nov. 25th to Jan. 17th) ...	1874 to 1876	
2786	„ „ (No. 3, Jan. 19th to March 26th)	1876 to 1877	
2787	„ „ (No. 4, March 29th to Sept. 21s)...	1877 to 1878	
2788	„ „ (No. 5, Sept. 24th to July 21st) ...	1878 to 1880	
2789	„ „ (No. 6, July 21st to Feb. 6th) ...	1880 to 1882	
2790	„ „ (No. 7, Feb. 7th to June 20th) ...	1882 to 1883	
2791	„ „ (No. 8, June 22nd to Sept. 6th) ...	1883 to 1884	
2792	„ „ (No. 9, Sept. 8th to May 9th) ...	1884 to 1885	
2793	„ „ (No. 10, May 21st to Jan. 23rd)	1885 to 1886	
2794	„ „ (No. 11, Jan. 25th to Oct. 21st)	... 1886	
2795	„ „ (No. 12, Oct. 23rd to June 9th) ...	1886 to 1887	
2796	„ Vestry (No. 13, June 10th to Jan. 2nd) ...	1887 to 1888	97
2797	„ „ (No. 14, Jan. 4th to March 24th)...	... 1888	
2798	„ „ (No. 15, March 26th to July 13th)	... 1888	
2799	„ „ (No. 16, July 13th to Nov. 28th)	... 1888	
2800	„ „ (No. 17, Nov. 29th to March 14th)	1888 to 1889	
2801	„ „ (No.18, March 14th to May 31st)	... 1889	
2802	„ „ (No. 19, May 31st to Sept. 14th)	... 1889	
2803	„ „ (No. 20, Sept. 14th to Dec. 16th)	... 1889	
2804	„ „ (No. 21, Dec. 16th to Feb. 28th)	1889 to 1890	
2805	„ „ (No. 22, Feb. 28th to June 6th)	... 1890	
2806	„ „ (No. 23, June 6th to Sept. 18th) ...	... 1890	
2807	„ „ (No. 24, June 6th to Dec. 22nd)	... 1890	
2808	„ „ (No. 25, Dec. 23rd to March 16th)	1890 to 1891	
2809	„ „ (No. 26, March 14th to June 15th)	... 1891	

No.	Title or Nature of Record.	Year.	Shelf.
2810	Letter Book, Vestry (No. 27, June 5th to Aug. 19th) ...	... 1891	97
2811	„ „ (No. 28, Aug. 19th to Nov. 23rd)	... 1891	
2812	„ „ (No. 29, Nov. 24th to Feb. 22nd)	1891 to 1892	
2813	„ „ (No. 30, Feb. 22nd to May 3rd) ...	... 1892	96
2814	„ „ (No. 31, May 12th to Aug. 3rd) ...	... 1892	
2815	„ „ (No. 32, Aug. 3rd to Nov. 24th) ...	... 1892	
2816	„ „ (No. 33, Nov. 24th to Feb. 21st)	1892 to 1893	
2817	„ „ (No. 34, Feb. 22nd to May 15th)	... 1893	
2818	„ „ (No. 35, May 16th to July 28th)	... 1893	
2819	„ „ (No. 36, July 28th to Nov. 10th)	... 1893	
2820	„ Town Hall hire (Sept. 24th to June 11th)	1883 to 1885	116
2821	„ „ (June 11th to Jan. 4th)	1885 to 1887	
2822	„ „ (Jan. 4th to July 30th)	... 1887	
2823	„ „ (Aug. 12th to May 17th)	1887 to 1888	
2824	„ „ (May 18th to March 29th)	1888 to 1889	
2825	„ „ (March 30th to Jan 13th)	1889 to 1890	
2826	„ „ (Jan. 14th to Nov. 1st)	... 1890	
2827	„ „ (Nov. 1st to May 30th)	1890 to 1891	
2828	„ „ (May 29th to March 15th)	1891 to 1892	
2829	„ „ (March 15th to Jan 6th.)	1892 to 1893	
2830	„ „ (Jan. 6th to Oct. 14th)	... 1893	
2831	Order Book for Dust Removal	1864 to 1867	100
2832	„ „	1867 to 1868	
2833, 2834, 2835	Register, Medical Visitors, Cholera, District Board of Works (3 books)	1866	
2836	Register, Clerk's, Cholera, District Board of Works ...	... 1866	
2837	Return of Sewerage and length and area of streets ...	... 1856	
2838	Trench Book, Paving Commission, St. John ...	1850 to 1856	
2839	Trench Books, District Board of Works	... 1856-58	
2840	„ „	... 1858-60	
2841	„ „	... 1860-64	
2842	„ „	... 1864-68	
2843	„ „	... 1868-73	
2844	„ „	... 1873-75	
2845	„ „	... 1875-77	
2846	„ „	... 1877-9	

No.	Title or Nature of Record.	Year.	Shelf.
2847	Trench Books, District Board of Works...	1879-81	100
2848	" "	1881-84	
2849	" "	1884-87	
2850	Medical Officer's and Analyst's Reports (parcel)	1874-84	102
2851	Metropolitan Charities, Circular *re* Conference on (parcel) ...	1879	
2852	Gas Reports (parcel)	1859-64	
2853	Margrie *v.* Duke of Westminster, *re* Mortuary (parcel) (See 2864)	1880	
2854	Pye Street Improvements, Papers *re* (parcel)	1876-7	
2855	Great Peter Street Improvements, Papers *re* (parcel) ...	1878	
2856	Unclaimed Dividends, Papers *re* (parcel)	1881	
2857	Reports on Street Lighting (parcel)	1870	
2858	Surveyor's Report, "Steam Roller" (parcel)	1866	
2859	Lord Auckland, papers (parcel)	1872	
2860	Election of Vestrymen, Declarations for the several Wards ...	1873-7	
2861	Works Committee (parcel)	1858	
2862	" "	1868	
2863	" "	1871	
2864	Mortuary, Papers relating to proposed (parcel) (See 2853) ...	1878-81	
2865	Census, Enumeration Summaries (Absey and Grand) 3 books	1821	103
2866	Census, Vol. 1	1861	
2867	Census (10 books)	1811-12	
2868	Census; enumeration abstracts	1811	
2869	Census Returns, Abstract of (2 books)	1811, 1821	
2870	Poor, Abstract of Returns	1818	
2871	Boundary Marks Schedule	1856	
2872	Housing of Working Classes, Report of Royal Commission ...	1885	
	Housing of Working Classes, Evidence taken	1885	
2873	Medical Officer of Health, Annual Reports	1899	
2874	Rates, Poor, Highway, and Watch, Arrears, Petty Sessions Defaulters' List	1812-14	109
2875	" " " " ...	1815-19	
2876	" " " " ...	1820-22	
2877	" " " " ...	1823-25	
2878	Prayer Books, Churchwardens'	1789	105
2879	" "	1789	
2880	" "	1791	
2881	" "	1791	

No.	Title or Nature of Record.	Year.	Shelf.
2882	Prayer Books, Churchwardens'	1792	105
2883	Statutes at Large	1695	
2884	" "	1695	
2885	" "	1706	
2886	" "	1724	
2887	" "	1724	
2888	" "	1736	
2889	" "	1742	
2890	" "	1759	
2891	" "	1759	104
2892	" "	1769	
2893	" "	1771	
2894	Register of Burials, St. John's Parish	1783-93	
2895	" " "	1793 to 1802	
2896	" " "	1803-9	
2897	" " "	1810-17	
2898	" " "	1817-23	
2899	" " "	1828-33	
2900	" " "	1833-38	
2901	" " "	1839-46	
2902	" " "	1846-51	
2903	" " "	1851-53	
2904	Resolution Book, Vestry	1876-7	110
2905	" "	1877-81	
2906	" "	1882-87	
2907	" "	1887-88	
2908	Warrant Books, Distress	1859-73	
2909	" "	1873-77	
2910	Rates, summary of amounts paid to District Board	1856-70	
2911	Accounts, Collectors' Weekly Office, Vestry (Grand) ...	1845-56	
2912	" " " (Absey) ...	1845-56	
2913	" " " (St. John) ...	1845-56	
2914	" " " (Grand)	1856-1880	
2915	" " " (Absey))	1856-1880	
2916	" " " (St. John)	1856-1880	
2917	Audit Committee, Monthly Account, Poor Rate ...	1848 to 1866	
2918	" " " " ...	1867 to 1875	

No.	Title or Nature of Record.	Year.	Shelf.
2919	Governors of the Poor (Ledger)	1869 to 1870	110
2920	Asylums Board, Report of Select Committee on	1846	
2921	Governors of the Poor (Letter Book)	1870-1	
2922	Jubilee, Geo. III., List of Persons recommended for relief ...	1809	111
2923	,, ,, Subscription Book...	1809	
2924	Queen's Diamond Jubilee, papers *re* Princess of Wales' Fund (parcel)	1897	
2925	Queen's Diamond Jubilee, papers of Committee *re* Westminster Commemoration (Box 8)	1897	
2926	Poor Rate Vouchers (Guard Books)	1882-3	115
2927	,, Cheques ,, ...	1882-3	
2928	,, Cheques ,, ...	1883-4-5	
2929	,, Vouchers ,, ...	1883-4-5	
2930	,, Cheques ,, ...	1885-6-7	
2931	,, Vouchers ,, ...	1885-6-7	
2932	,, Vouchers ,, ...	1887-8-9	
2933	,, Cheques ,, ...	1887-8-9	
2934	,, Cheques ,, ...	1892-7	
2935	Town Hall Vouchers, Board (Guard Books)	1884-5	
2936	,, ,, ,, ...	1885-6	
2937	,, ,, ,, ...	1886-7	
2938	,, ,, ,, ...	1887	
2939	Town Hall Vouchers, Vestry (Guard Books)	1887-9	114
2940	District and Library Rate Vouchers (Guard Books) ...	1882-3	
2941	,, ,, Cheques ,, ...	1882-3	
2942	,, ,, Cheques ,, ...	1883-4-5	
2943	,, ,, Vouchers ,, ...	1883-4-5	
2944	,, ,, Vouchers ,, ...	1885-6-7	
2945	,, ,, Cheques ,, ...	1855-6-7	
2946	,, ,, Vouchers ,, ...	1887-8-9	
2947	,, ,, Cheques ,, ...	1887-8-9	
2948	Petty Cash Vouchers, United Vestries ,, ...	1882-3	
2949	,, ,, ,, ,, ...	1886-7	
2950	,, ,, ,, ,, ...	1887-8	
2951	Westminster District Board Vouchers (Guard Books)	1883-4	
2952	,, ,, ,, ,, ...	1884-5	113
2953	,, ,, ,, ,, ...	1885-6	

No.	Title or Nature of Record.	Year.	Shelf.
2954	Westminster District Board Vouchers (Guard Books)	1886-7	113
2955	" " " "	1887-8	
2956	Vestry Vouchers (Guard Book)	1888-9	
2957	Vestry Cheques "	1889	
2958	Vestry Vouchers "	1889	
2959	Vestry Cheques "	1890-1	112
2960	Vestry Vouchers "	1890	
2961	Vestry Cheques "	1892-3	
2962	Vestry Vouchers, Clerk's Cash Book (Guard Books) ...	1891	
2963	Board Vouchers (parcel)	1863-9	132
2964	" "	1869-74	
2965	Westminster District Board of Works, Vouchers	1874	133
2966	" " "	1875	
2967	" " "	1876	
2968	" " "	1877	
2969	" " "	1878	
2970	" " "	1879	
2971	" " "	1880	
2972	" " "	1881	
2973	" " "	1882-3	
2974	" " "	1876-77	
2975	Agenda, Board of Works	1869 to 1879	21
2976	" "	1880 to 1882	
2977	" Joint Vestry, Finance Committee	1873 to 1877	
2978	" " "	1877 to 1881	
2979	" " "	1881 to 1883	
2980	" United Vestries	1885 to 1886	
2981	" Churchwardens and Overseers (Town Hall)	1890-1897	
2982	" " " "	1887-1890	
2983	" " " "	1886-1887	
2984	" Chairman's, United Vestries	1887-1888	
2985	" Board of Works (parcel)	Prior to 1884	
2986	" Chairman's, Board	1884-5	20
2987	" " "	1886	
2988	" " "	1887	
2989	" " Vestry	1889	
2990	" " "	1890	

No.	Title or Nature of Record.	Year.	Shelf.
2991	Agenda, Chairman's, Vestry	1890-1	20
2992	" " "	1891-2	
2993	" " "	1892-3	
2994	" " "	1893-4	
2995	Taxes, Land	1735	139
	" "	1739	
	" "	1743	
	" "	1768	
2996	" " 7 books	1780	
2997	" " 4 "	1781	
2998	" " 6 "	1782	
2999	" " 7 "	1783	
3000	" " 8 "	1784	
3001	" " 6 "	1785	
3002	" " 6 "	1786	
3003	" " 5 "	1787	
3004	" " 5 "	1788	
3005	" " 6 "	1789	
3006	" " 6 "	1790	
3007	" " 5 "	1791	
3008	" " 6 "	1792	
3009	" " 8 "	1793	138
3010	" " 7 "	1794	
3011	" " 8 "	1795	
3012	" " 8 "	1796	
3013	" " 8 "	1797	
3014	" " 15 "	1798	
3015	" " 5 "	1799	
3016	" " 5 "	1800	
3017	" " 5 "	1801	
3018	" " 4 "	1802	
3019	" " 5 "	1803	
3020	" " 5 "	1804	137
3021	" " 6 "	1805	
3022	" " 6 "	1806	
3023	" " 5 "	1807	
3024	" " 6 "	1808	

No.	Title or Nature of Record.	Year.	Shelf
3025	Taxes, Land, 4 books	1809	137
	,, ,, 3 ,, ...	1810	
3026	,, ,, 4 ,, ...	1811	
	,, ,, 4 ,, ...	1812	
3027	,, ,, 4 ,, ...	1813	
	,, ,, 4 ,, ...	1814	
3028	,, ,, 4 ,, ...	1815	
	,, ,, 4 ,, ...	1816	
3029	,, ,, 2 ,, ...	1817	
	,, ,, 4 ,, ...	1818	
3030	,, ,, 4 ,, ...	1819	
	,, ,, 3 ,, ...	1820	
3031	,, ,, 4 ,, ...	1821	
	,, ,, 4 ,, ...	1822	
3032	,, ,, 5 ,, ...	1823	
	,, ,, 4 ,, ...	1824	
3033	,, ,, 4 ,, ...	1825	
	,, ,, 4 ,, ...	1826	
3034	Minutes (Rough), Paving Commissioners	1817 to 1823	136
3035	,, ,, ,, ...	1823 to 1828	
3036	,, ,, ,, ...	1839 to 1849	
3037	Paving Commissioners (St. Margaret and St. John), Treasurer's Account Book	1782 to 1818	
3038	,, ,, ,, ,, ...	1818-40	
3039	,, ,, ,, ,, ...	1841-53	
3040	Paving Commissioners (St. Margaret and St. John) Ledger ...	1782-96	
3041	Paving Commissioners (St. John) Cash Book	1841-53	
3042	,, ,, ,, Ledger	1841-53	
3043	,, ,, ,, Letter Book ...	1839-50	
3044	Paving Commissioners Case Book	1782 to 1824	
3045	Watch, Beadles' Reports and Patrols' Returns ...	1774 to 1778	156
3046	,, ,, ,, ...	1779 to 1781	
3047	,, ,, ,, ...	1781 to 1783	
3048	,, ,, ,, ...	1783 to 1786	
3049	,, ,, ,, ...	1786 to 1789	
3050	,, ,, ,, ...	1789 to 1793	

No.	Title or Nature of Record.	Year.	Shelf.
3051	Watch, Beadles' Reports and Patrols' Returns... ...	1793 to 1797	156
3052	,, ,, ,, ...	1777 to 1779	
3053	,, ,, ,, ...	1779 to 1780	
3054	,, ,, ,, ...	1780 to 1781	
3055	,, ,, ,, ...	1781 to 1782	
3056	,, ,, ,, ...	1780 to 1782	
3057	,, ,, ,, ...	1782 to 1783	
3058	,, ,, ,, ...	... 1782-3	
3059, 3060	,, ,, ,, (2 books) ...	... 1783-4	
3061	,, ,, ,, ...	... 1784-5	
3062	,, ,, ,, ...	... 1785-6	
3063	,, ,, ,, ...	... 1785-8	
3064	,, ,, ,, ...	... 1786-9	
3065	,, ,, ,, ...	... 1788-91	
3066	,, ,, ,, ...	... 1789-90	
3067	,, ,, ,, ...	... 1790-92	
3068	,, ,, ,, ...	... 1800-4	
3069	Watchmen's names	... 1736	
3070	Watchmen's and Beadles' receipts	1738 to 1749	
3071	,, ,, ...	1750 to 1757	
3072	,, ,, ...	1757 to 1770	
3073	Watchmen's Report Book	1782 to 1785	
3074	Constables' Charge Book	... 1793-4	
3075	Receipts for Briefs, House to House (See Nos. 1570-1-2-3)	1725 to 1792	
3076	Accounts, Briefs, and Sacraments	1731 to 1763	
3077	Vestry Club, Book of Members' Accounts	1777 to 1800	
3078	Objections on Poll by Counsel for Sir Geo. Vanderput ..	1740	
3079, 3080	Lecturer, Ballot for, List of persons balloting (2 books) ...	1790	157
3081	,, ,, ,, ...	1802	
3082	,, ,, ,, ...	1805	
3083	,, ,, ,, ...	1820	
3084	Lecturer, 17 Poll Books (some undated)	1802	
3085	Special Constables, List of Volunteers	1794	

No.	Title or Nature of Record.	Year.	Shelf.
3086	Register of Officiating Clergy (St. Margaret's)	1841-9	157
3087	" " "	1850-60	
3088	" " "	1860-70	
3089	Register of Fees for Marriages, etc. (St. Margaret's)	1834-7	
3090	" " "	1837-48	
3091	President (precedents), Book of...	1708	
3092	" "	1723	
3093, 3094	" " (2 books)	1738	
3095	" "	1754	
3096	" "	No date.	
3097	Church Rate, Report of Audit Committee (parcels)	1831-2	
3098	Attendance Book, District Board	1876-1881	
3099	" " "	1881-1883	
3100	" " "	1884-1888	
3101	Attendance Book, Joint Vestries	1876 to 1881	
3102	" " "	1881 to 1887	
3103	" " "	1887 to 1890	
3104	Attendance Book, Libraries and Baths Commissioners ...	1889-96	
3105	Charities, Will Book	1656	158
3106	" Will Book, Extracts from; also Inventory of Church Goods	1801	
3107	" Account of charity given during hard frost	1739	
3108	" Cutler's Charity Account Book	1695 to 1741	
3109	" " "	1742 to 1824	
3110	" " "	1825 to 1868	
3111	" " Minute Book	1845 to 1872	
3112	" Joan Barnett Account Book	1675 to 1868	
3113	" Joan Barnett Minute Book	1797 to 1870	
3114	" Rampayne's Charity Account Book ...	1707 to 1815	
3115	" " "	1816 to 1865	
3116	" " Minute Book	1845 to 1878	
3117	" Emery Hill's Account Book	1678 to 1751	
3118	" Dickinson's Charity, Accounts	1819 to 1856	
3119	" W. G. Mucklow, Accounts *re* gift of	1844	
3120	"Subscribers to Roll" (St. Margaret)	No date.	

Cinitas Westm^r: St Margarett

The Accompt of Peter Heywood and Thomas Morice Church:wardens and of Alexander Glover, William Bell John Norton and Thomas Hull Overseers for the poore of the Parish of Saint Margarett in the Cittie of Westminster in the Countie of Midd: according to a Statute in the xliij veare of the raigne of our late Soueraigne ladie Queene Elizabeth aswell of all such money and other thinges as they haue receiued as also of the employment thereof Begining in Easter weeke in the veare of our Lord 1617 and continued vntill Easter Ano Dni 1618.

The remaine of the Laste Overseers Accompte, ended the Easter weeke 1617 and receiued by ye the Overseers above named — vij^h. v^s. ix^d.

Summa paginae — vij^h. v^s. ix^d.

TITLE PAGE OF OVERSEERS' ACCOUNTS, 1617.

No.	Title or Nature of Record.	Year.	Shelf.
3121	Memorandum Books	1743-72	158
	Index	1784	
	„ (3 books)	No date.	
3122	Nursing Lists	1774-6	
3123	„ „	1776-9	
3124	„ „	1795	
3125	Nursing Account	1792	
3126	„ „	1795	
3127	Drake and Skinner's Account, Weald Hall	1733-5	
3128	Barber's Diary (shaving in workhouse)...	1759-1784	
3129	Charity, Scheme, Copies of draft of the, (parcel)	1889	159
3130	Charities, Ledger relating to various, (St. Margaret)	1879-1889	
3131	Charities, An Account of, those under the control of the Churchwardens of St. Margaret's, made in compliance with an order of the Vestry	1838	
3132	Valuation Lists (original)	1870	163
3133	„ „ (copy)	1870	
3134	„ „ (original)	1875	
3135	„ „ (draft)	1875	
3136	„ „ (original)	1880	
3137	„ „ (original)	1885	
3138	„ „ (original)	1890	
3139	„ „ Home Wards only (original)	1895	
3140	Land and Window Tax	1747	10
3141	„ „	1753-5	
3142	„ „	1756-8	
3143	„ „	1759-61	
3144	„ „	1762-4	
3145	„ „	1765-7	
3146	„ „	1768-70	
3147	„ „	1771-2	
3148	„ „	1773-4	
3149	„ „	1775-6	11
3150	„ „	1777-80	
3151	Land Tax (parcel) Supplementary Assessments ...	1784-1826	
3152	Tax on Pensions (Pension Books)	1744 to 1780	
3153	„ Detinue, Book of	1781-98	

No.	Title or Nature of Record.	Year.	Shelf.
3154	Tax on Detinue, Book of	1791-1808	11
3155	Minutes, Land Tax, New Duty	1758 to 1809	
3156	Minutes, Land Tax, House, Window, and General, 1798, and New Window Tax	1784	
3157	Minutes, Land Tax, House, Window, and General, 1798, and House Tax	1783	
3158	Taxes, House, Windows (or Lights) Tax	1747 to 1759	
3159	Taxes, Servants, Carriages, Horses, and Dogs; Servants' Tax (1785 to 1799)	1798 to 1804	12
3160	Taxes, Carriage and Horse, 1785 to 1797; Aid and Contribution	1798	
3161	Taxes, Duty on Houses inhabited	1778 to 1783	
3162	„ Window (3 books)	1766-7	
3163	„ Window, House and Servants	1780	
3164	„ Window, House, Servants, and Carriages (2 books) ...	1786	
	„ „ „ „ ...	1878	
3165	„ „ „ (4 books) ...	1788	
3166	„ „ „ (3 books) ...	1789	
3167	„ „ „ (4 books) ...	1790	
3168	„ „ „ (5 books) ...	No dates.	
3169	„ Land, Window, and House (2 books)	1778	
	„ Window and House (2 books)	1785	
	„ „ „	1780	
3170	„ Land, Window, and House (2 books)	1779	
	„ Land, Window and House, and Servants	1779	
	„ Land, Index to	1757-8-9	
3171	„ Duties on Retail Shops, Servants, Carriages and Horses (2 books)	1786	
3172	„ Miscellaneous (5 books)	1766-1803	
3173	„ Miscellaneous forms, schedules, letters, Collectors' Account (parcel)	1774-1831	
3174	„ Land, King's Bench Book of Offices, Tax on Yearly Salary or Profits	1770-87	
3175	„ „ „ „	1788-1800	
3176	„ „ „ „ ...	1801-35	
3177	„ Land Tax, Exchequer Book of Offices, Tax on Yearly Salary or Profits	1739 to 1789	

	Title or Nature of Record.	Year.	Shelf.
3178	Taxes, Land, Exchequer Book of Offices, Tax on Yearly Salary or Profits	1790 to 1807	12
3179	" " " "	1808 to 1835	
3180	" Land, Exchequer and King's Bench Book of Offices, Tax on Yearly Salary or Profits (Ledger)	1770-1783	
3181	" " " "	1784-1802	13
3182	" " " "	1820-35	
3183	" Land, King's Bench Book of Offices or Perquisites, New Duty	1764-1789	
3184	" " " "	1790-1807	
3185	" " " "	1765-1785	
3186	" Land, Exchequer Book of Offices or Perquisites, New Duty	1786 to 1807	
3187	" Land, King's Bench and Exchequer Book of Offices or Perquisites, New Duty ... (Ledger)	1758 to 1781	
3188	" " " "	1782 to 1805	
3188A	" Land, Notes on Perquisites	1759	
3189	" Land	1827-8	
3190	" "	1829-31	
3191	" "	1832-3	
3192	" "	1834-6	
3193	" "	1841-3	
3194	" Land and Window Tax	1770	
3195	" Land, Collector's Arrears, King Street, West (38 books)	1782 to 1811	
3196	" Land, Collector's Arrears, King Street, North (39 books)	1793 to 1813	14
3197	" Land, Collector's Arrears, Petty France and Knightsbridge (40 books)	1793 to 1811	
3198	" Land, Collector's Arrears, St. John (38 books)	1793 to 1812	
3199	" Land, Collector's Arrears, Exchequer Book of Offices (1 book)	1742 to 1786	
	" Land, Collector's Arrears, Exchequer Book of Offices (17 books)	1797 to 1830	
3200	" Land, Collector's Arrears, King's Bench (7 books)	1741 to 1799	
	" Land, Collector's Arrears, King's Bench and Exchequer (2 books)	1741 to 1786	
	" Land, Collector's Arrears, King's Bench (11 books)	1818 to 1830	

No.	Title or Nature of Record.	Year.	Shelf.
3201	Taxes, Assessed Land (4 books)	1818	14
3202	" " (4 books and loose sheets)	1819	
3203	" " (4 books and loose sheets)	1820	
3204	" " (8 books and loose sheets)	1821	15
3205	" " (5 books and loose sheets)	1822	
3206	" " (5 books and loose sheets)	1823	
3207	" " (4 books and loose sheets)	1824	
3208	" " (4 books)	1825	
3209	" " (4 books and loose sheets)	1826	
3210	" " "	1827	
3211	" " "	1828	16
3212	" " "	1829	
3213	" " "	1830	
3214	" " "	1831	
3215	" " "	1832	
3216	" " "	1833	17
3217	" " "	1834	
3218	" " "	1835	
3219	" " "	1836	
3220	" " "	1837	
3221	Settlements, Register of Affidavits relating to... ...	1711 to 1714	18
3222	" " "	1714 to 1721	
3223	" " "	1718 to 1722	
3224	" " "	1722 to 1724	
3225	" " "	1724 to 1727	
3226	" " "	1727 to 1729	
3227	" " "	1726 to 1729	
3228	" " "	1729 to 1735	
3229	" " "	1734 to 1738	
3230	" " "	1738 to 1740	
3231	" " "	1740 to 1741	
3232	" (One book marked Examination of	1740 to 1742	
	" Vagrants and of Settlements)	1727 to 1738	
3233	" Marked Vagrants' Examination	1742 to 1752	
3234	" " " ...	1741 to 1745	
3235	" " " ...	1745 to 1747	
3236	" " " ...	1747 to 1751	

No.	Title or Nature of Record.	Year.	Shelf.
3237	Settlements, Examination of poor in Workhouse ...	1746 to 1748	18
3238	" Register of Certificates	1701 to 1728	
3239	" " "	1729 to 1752	
3240	Churchwardens' Pew Rent Books, Parish Rents, Annuities and Benefactions	1729	
3241	" " " " ...	1743	
3242	" " " " ...	1752	
3243	" " " " ...	1755	
3244	" " " " ...	1759	19
3245	" " " " ...	1760	
3246	" " " " ...	1761	
3247	" " Pew Rents only	1779-80	
3248	" " "	1783-4	
3249	" " "	1785-6	
3250	" " "	1787-8	
3251	" " "	1789	
3252	" " "	1797	
3253	" " Parish Rents, Annuities and Benefactions	1798	
3254	" " Pew Rents only	1798	
3255	" " Parish Rents, Annuities and Benefactions	1798	
3256	" " Pew Rents only	1799	
3257	" " Parish Rents, Annuities and Benefactions	1800	
3258	" " " " ...	1801	
3259	" " Pew Rents only	1803	
3260	" " "	1805	
3261	" " "	1806	
3262	" " Parish Rents, Annuities and Benefactions	1806	
3263	" " Pew Rents	1807	
3264	" " "	1808	
3265	" " "	1809	
3266	" " "	1810	
3267	" " Parish Rents, Annuities and Benefactions	1810	
3268	" " Pew Rents only	1811	
3269	" " "	1812	
3270	" " "	1814	
3271	" " "	1815	
3272	" " "	1815	

No.	Title or Nature of Record.	Year.	Shelf.
3273	Churchwardens' Pew Rent Books	1816	19
3274	„ „ „	1817	
3275	„ „ Parish Rents, Annuities and Benefactions	1818	
3276	„ „ Pew Rents only	1819	
3277	„ „ „	1822	
3278	„ „ „	1823	
3279	„ „ „	1824	
3280	„ „ Parish Rents, Annuities and Benefactions	1824	
3281	„ „ Pew Rents only	1825	
3282	„ „ „	1826	
3283	„ „ Parish Rents, Annuities and Benefactions	1827	
3284, 3285, 3286	„ „ „ „ 3 books	No date.	
3287	„ „ Pew Registers	1838 to 1856	
3288	„ „ Receipts for Pew Rents ...	1764 to 1775	
3289	Poor Rate, Journal	1871 to 1876	
3290	Accounts (Churchwardens') of receipts and expenditure, *in re* services, etc., at St. John's Church (unbound sheets)	1796 to 1845	161
3291	Paving, Lighting and Rector's Rates (St. John's) Collectors' copies (unbound)	1805 to 1825	
3292	Abstract of the several orders of the Vestry relating to the duties of Church Officers (unbound)	1784	
	Report by the Auditors upon examination of the accounts of St. John's parish	1830-3	
	Minutes of Committee of St. John's Vestry as to the appropriation of the Church vaults for burials	1821	
	Minutes of Committee of St. John's Vestry as to providing increased accommodation for burials	1821	
	Minutes of the Committee to conduct the application to Parliament for aid to repair St. John's Church	1812	
	List of Poor Housekeepers, etc., in St. John's parish relieved by voluntary contributions "at this severe season" ...	1784	
3293	Sundry Letters and Accounts (Churchwardens' and Overseers') relating to Church	Between 1700 and 1800	87
3294	Churchwardens' Miscellaneous Receipts and Accounts, and various papers (Shadwell), parcels	1874-5-6	

No	Title or Nature of Record.	Year.	Shelf.
3295	Provisional Valuation List (parcels)	1889 to 1891	87
3296	Army reserve (parcels)	1803	
3297	Army and Navy Rate (parcels)	1796-7	
3298	Grants, Bargains, Sales, Title Deeds, etc. (parcels) ...	1561 to 1568	
3299	Special Committee Papers (parcels)	1856 to 1861	
3300	Tradesmen's Bills and Vouchers (parcels)	1853	
3301	Special Committee on allegations by Mr. Aston (parcels) 2 books	1879	
	Bastardy Orders	1751 to 1813	
3302	Contracts relating to repair of St. Margaret's and St. John's Churches (parcels)	1761 to 1845	
3303	Repairs, etc., to St. Margaret's and St. John's Churches (parcels)	1815 to 1825	88
3304	Church Papers (parcels)	1604 to 1849	
	Deeds relating to Broadway Burial Ground (parcels) ...		
3305	Westminster Improvement Act (parcels)	1845	
	" " Papers (parcels)	1850 to 1870	
	" " Deposited Plans (parcels) ...	1847	
3306	Lamp Reports (parcels)	1804 to 1821	
3307	" "	1805 to 1819	
3308	Paving Papers (parcels)	1752 to 1837	
3309	Cholera, Papers relating to (parcels)	1866	
	Mrs. Milns, Miscellaneous papers presented by (parcels)	1835 to 1870	
3310	Acts of Parliament and Bills (parcels)	1753 to 1777	
	First Report of Charity Trustees, 18 copies (parcels) ...	1890	
3311	Drake's Accounts (parcels)	1799	
	Sermons preached at Military Chapel (parcels)	1803	
	Census papers (parcels)	1801, 1811, 1821, and 1831	
	Christmas Charities (parcels)	1766 to 1829	
	Treasurer's Printed Accounts (parcels)	1835-49	
	Treasurer's Certificate of Balances (parcels)	1874 to 1876	
	Treasurer's Vouchers, Church Rate, Nos. 1, 2, and 3 (parcels)...		
3312	Churchwardens' Receipts, Church matters (parcels) ...	1876 to 1878	
3313	Churchwardens' Vouchers (parcels)	1792-7	89
3314	" " "	1801-3	
3315	" " "	1804-9	
3316	" " "	1810-7	

No.	Title or Nature of Record.	Year.	Shelf.
3317	Churchwardens' Vouchers (parcels)	1819-27	89
3318	" " "	1827-37	
3319	" " "	1837-50	
3320	" " "	1850-8	
3321	" " "	1839-41	90
3322	" " "	1842-4	
3323	" " "	1845-7	
3324	" " "	1848-9	
3325	Letters (parcels), District Board of Works	1856-9	
3326	" " "	1860-4	
3327	" " "	1865-7	
3328	" " "	1868-73	
3329	" " "	1874-6	91
3330	Letters " "	1862-79	
	Accounts, District Board of Works (loose sheets) ...	1868-9	
3331	Correspondence, etc., *re* School Board Conference	1879	
3332	Letters (parcels), District Board of Works	1877-8	
3333	" " "	1870-83	
3334	" " "	1883	
3335	" " "	1884	
3336	" " "	1885	
3337	" " "	1886	
	Complaints *re* Ludford's Contract	1880-1	
3338	Letters, Vestry (parcels)	1776 to 1811	92
3339	" " "	1812-24	
3340	" " "	1810 and 1815-33	
	" Various "	1872-6	
3341	" " "	1877-83	
3342	" " "	1884-5	
3343	" " "	1886-7	
3344	" " "	1888	
3345	" *In re* hire of Town Hall	1883-7	
3346	Westminster Free School in Orchard Street (parcels)	1812-17	
3347	Coronation Papers, Geo. III. and IV., Wm. IV., and Victoria	1760 to 1838	
3348	Cheques, Board and Vestry (1 parcel)	1856-7 1867-73 1869-77	93

No.	Title or Nature of Record.	Year.	Shelf.
3349	Parliamentary Election, Westminster (parcels)	1826	93
3350	Jury List and Papers	1826-81	
3351	„ „	1882-5	
3352	„ „	1889	
3353	Town Hall, Tickets and Programmes *re* Foundations... ...	1883	
3354	„ Plans of Site	1881-2	
3355	Plans, various, deposited	1882	
3356	„ St. Ermin's Hill property	1882	
3357	Instructions to Architects competing for erection of Town Hall, and report of Mr. C. Barry on plans for same	1882	
3358	Burrel *v.* Nicholson (papers)	1831-2	
3359	„ „ Printed reports of trial (2 parcels) ...	1833	
3360	Guardians' Receipts, parcel No. 1	1732 to 1854	94
3361	„ „ „ „ 2		
3362	„ „ „ „ 3		
3363	„ „ „ „ 4		
3364	„ „ „ „ 5		
3365	„ „ „ „ 6		
3366	Annual Report, Board of Works, printed copies (parcel) ...	1883-4	95
3367	„ „ „ „ ...	1884-5	
3368	„ „ „ „ ...	1885-6	
3369	„ „ „ „ ...	1886-7	
3370	„ „ „ „ ...	1887-8	
3371	Reports to Vestry on various subjects (parcel)	1840-53	
3372	Annual Report of Vestry	1889	
3373	„ „	1890-1	
3374	„ „ (parcel).	1891-2	
3375	„ „ „	1892-3	
3376	„ „ „	1893-4	
3377	„ „ „	1894-5	
3378	„ „ „	1895-6	
3379	„ „ „	1896-7	
3380	„ „ „	1897-8	57
3381	„ „ „	1898-9	
3382	Overseers' Receipts (parcel)	1728 to 1740	
3383, 3384	Bonds and Indentures (two parcels)	1680 to 1802	

No.	Title or Nature of Record.	Year.	Shelf.
3385	Bonds and Indentures (two parcels)	1718 to 1736	57
3386	Bonds and Securities (parcel)	1816 to 1820	
3387	Parochial Offices Papers (parcel)	... 1881	
3388	Parish Property, St. Ermin's Hill and Marloes Road	... 1885	
3389	Perambulation Papers	1775 to 1877	56
3390	Agendas	1873 to 1877	
	Banker's Receipts	1878 to 1883	
	Town Hall, *re* Opening of		
3391	Local Government of London, Conference Papers ...	... 1885	
3392	Special Constables, Papers	... 1867	
3393	Tradesmen's bills, Workhouse (parcel)	... 1838-9	
3394	Paving Papers	1735 to 1836	
3395	Paving Commissioners' Deed Book	1765 to 1770	1
3396	" " "	1766 to 1776	
3397	Paving Commissioners' Plans, Book of	... 1854	
3398	" " "	... 1832-54	
Unnumbered.	Deeds (parcel), in Box No. 1	1660 to 1675	134
	" " "	1679 to 1700	
	" " "	1700 to 1743	
	" " "	1744 to 1773	
	Rents, payable to St. Margaret's Church and poor ...	... 1668	
	Presentments of Jurors of Sewers	... 1664-70	
	Inventory of Church Goods	... 1653	
	Inventory of Jewels, Plate, Ornaments, etc.	... 1548	
	Declaration of Loyalty to George I.	... 1715	
	Subscription for Enlistment Bounty	... 1759	
	Re £200, Gift for Poor Children	... 1627	
	Warrant appointing a Commission of Sewers	... 1667	
	Order naming Chappell Street	... 1656	
	Indenture, Surveyor of Highways, *re* Chappell Street	... 1655	
	Bowyer's Articles as to Scavenging Contract	... 1624-5	
	Will of Lambert (copy)	... 1587	
	Plan of Ground of Derby Court	... 1792	
	Petition *re* small debts (part of)	... No date.	
	Tothill Fields Trust general papers. In Box No. 2 ...	1825-1855	135
	Pew Register, St. Margaret's Church. In Box No. 3 ...	1837 to 1841	155

No.	Title or Nature of Record.	Year.	Shelf.
Unnumbered.	Militia Pay Book. In Box No. 3	1793 to 1801	155
	Overseers, Personal disbursements in discharge of their office	1780 to 1820	
	Letters and Resolutions of Finance Committee	1870-2	
	Letters, St. George's Union	1873	
	Papers *re* District Railway Rating	1875	
	Borough and County Voters' and Jury Lists	1874-5-6	
	Vestry Letters	June 1873 to December 1873	
	" " ... ... " 1874	" 1874	
	" " ... ... " 1875	" 1875	
	" " ... ... " 1876	" 1876	
	Land Tax Accounts	1797-8-9	
	Poor and Watch Rate, Collectors' Account	1771 to 1791	
	Subscription List and Lists of Members of St. Margaret and St. John Armed Association, with other papers relating thereto	1798 to 1803	
	Armed Association, Papers. In Box No. 4		154
	Overseers, Memorandum of receipts and expenditure ...	1783 to 1814	
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(An inventory of the contents of these boxes, prepared by Mr. T. C. Noble in 1887, is placed in Box No. 10.)

The piece is done . . . . .
. . . . If aught have fallen amiss,
Oh, let it be sufficient that it is,
And you have pardoned it. (In buildings great,
All the whole body cannot be so neat
But something may be mended.) Those are fair,
And worthy love, that may destroy, but spare.

BEAUMONT and FLETCHER. *The Spanish Curate.*

FRONTISPIECE, IN COLOURS, OF THE OVERSEERS' ACCOUNTS, 1610.

APPENDIX.

Inventories

OF THE

Goods, Jewels and Ornaments,

IN THE

CHURCH OF ST. MARGARET,

1511, 1572, AND 1614-15.

INVENTORY, 1511.

Hereafter ensueth an Inventory made by the said Wardeyns Accomptaunts of all the Goodes, Juelles, and Ornamentes to the said Church of St. Margaret appertayning :—

Bookes. First iij grete antiphones new garnyshed with boleyns (knobs)
Item iiij small antiphones garnyshed with boleyns
Item A legend new garnyshed with boleyns
Item iiij Grailes new garnyshed with boleyns
Item vi Prest-stoner written, a Prest-stoner prynted
Item A Pyx and an Ordinall written
Item iiij Manuelles written
Item a Manuell with a red Kouvr (cover)
Item v Masse Bookes written
Item ij Printed Masse Bookes
Item j Grate Booke in pchment priksonge (written music)
Item a Gospeler garnyshed with a Crucyfix Mary & John with iiij cristall stones quadrant sette
Item a 'Pisteler garnyshed with the lynnen of ropes (?)

Vestementes. Item a sute of iij vestments of Red tissue wt. altar apparel belonging to theym
Item a sute of iij vestements of Blue tissue wt. all the Apparell longing to them
Item a sute of iij White vestments of Damask garnyshed with flowers of gold wt. al the Apparell that longeth to them

Item a sute of clothe of Bawdekyn (rich silk) iij vestments lakking a fanel (maniple)
Item a sute of iij vestments clothe of Bawdekyn with all the Apparell for Sondaies
Item a vestment of grene velvet with orferas (orfraies, fringes of gold or silver) of Red tissue with al hys reparel (change of apparel)
Item a vestment of Red saton figare prikd wt. gold wt. all hys reparell
Item a sute of vestments Black clothe of Bawdekyn of ij the gospeler lakking stole and fannell
tem a vestment Red saton garnyshed wt. whyte braunches and orferas wt. Blue damask wt. all hys repal
item a vestment of grene damask the orferas with imagery set upon gold with all the repall
Item a chesibil with stole and fannell of Dernyk (see note, p. 240) the orferas Red fayr garnyshed with floures coper gold
Item a vestement of Black saten figure wt. all the repall
Item a vestment of Red Bawdekyn the orferas Black sarsenet garnyshed wt. whyte roses with all the apparel
Item a vestment of Ray silk wt. orfras grene sarsenet garnysshed with birds and conyes wt. a stole lakking a fanel
Item a vestment of Bawdekyn the orfras white sarsenet garnysshed with red roses
Item a vestment russet damask the orfras red Bawdekyn garnysshed wt. birds with all the repal
Item a vestment of red and white garnysshed with grapes heds wt. all the apparel thereto
Item a vestment of white buckram (?) for Lent
Item a vestment of purpill sarsenet for Good Friday
A litil cope wt. old ribandes an orfras red velvet garnysshed with floures of gold and xxiiij floures of gold lying loose in the same cope
Item a fronte of blue Damask on the high Awter

Awter Clothes and Curteynes.

Item ij awter clothes blue & tawney velvet garnyshed wt. floures of gold
ij curteynes blue & tawney sarsent. to the same awter clothes
Item ij awter clothes of purpul sarsenet garnysshed wt. gartors and ij red sarsenet curteynes to the same
Item ij awter clothes blak worsted wt. ij curtenes blak sarsenet
Item ij white staned clothes for the high awter of the baptym of Crist and one curteyn unto hit wt. an aungel stayned
Item ij white stayned clothes of our Lady wt. ij stayned curtains
Item ij painted awter clothes wt. ij curteynes painted wt. leves
Item ij painted awter clothes wt. ij curtenes of the Passhion of Crist
Item ij painted awter clothes wt. ij curteynes
Item a stayned broken clothe
Item ij awter clothes of cloth of Bawdekyn
Item Sepulcre clothe of grene Bawdekyn
Item a white lynnen clothe for the Sepulcre
Item a canope of grene Bawdekyn
Item ij grete and ij smalle Supaltaries
Item vij diaper awter clothes
Item iiij playne awter clothes
Item iiij Diap. towells for the Awter
Item iij playne towells for the high Awter ij curteynes of blue bokrhm. that hange bifore Saint Mgaret. and Saint Katryn
A cloth for the fonte of Diap

Plate, Juelles, Corpas cases.wt. Kerches in them & naperie.

Item ij gilte chales, v chales par'ells gilt, iij sensors par'ells gilt, ij shippes par'ells gilt; ij ornetts par'ells gilt
Item a saorny belle par'ells gilt; j pax par'ells gilt; j pax copur and gilt of Mast. Campage gift; a pax painted the crucifix silver; j pyx hole gilt crysmatory partly gilt standing upon iv aungelles and pair of corall bedes of l gauded wt. silver and gilt with a knop of perle and a ring withal
A relic of St. Mgrate. finger silver and gilt. A tabulet wt. bones silver and gilt
A pece of the hed of St. George closed in silver and gilt

A crosse with perles
A litil prser the key and the henges silver
iiij knoppes silver and gilt on the silk that hangeth upon the pyx xxii Corpas cases wherof x have kropers and the remnant be without
iiij Corpas clothes on hallowed
xxxii Diap towelles conteynyng (blank)
iiij playne towelles conteynyng (blank)

Copes, bere clothes, serclet, baners, chapletts pendautes, canope; crosse staves and baner staves.

Item iij copes Red tissue iij copes blue tissue iij copes white damask brodered wt. floures of gold
Item a Red cope crymsyn saten briggy the orferas grene
iij copes black bawdekyn
xii cusshons grete and small
ii bere clothes one blue velvet and the odr bawdekyn
A bere clothe embrondered wt. the holie Gost grene veluet
ij blak clothes wt. white crosses to lie upon graves
A serclet for maidens when they be maried of the gift of Anthony goldsmith wif
xxi baners good and bad
ii lenton baners
j stremer wt. a lion
A Spanysshe towel for a crosier
iij sendel clothes
v chapleats for vyrgins
xvii pendaunts to hang about the sepulcre
Item iiij staves painted wt. silver for the canope
ij crosse staves one coper and the other bras
xvi baner staves
Item a pyx of clothe of tissue
iij copes of bawdekyn

Crosses, candel stikks, branches and other necessaries.

Item a crosse coper and gilt wt. a crucifix Mary and John
Item an oder crosse of coper & gilt end of the crosse wt. birrell
ij grete Standard candelstikks afore the high awter
iiij smal laten (fine brass) candelstikks for the high awter
Item iiij candelstikks of laton for burialls
Item the pascall bason wt. iiij chaynes laton
Item A lamp of laton
A branche laton of v candelstikks standing afore Saint Mgaret.
A branche of laton of ij candelstikks standing before the trunk (relic chest)
xiij grete bolles and iiij small bolles (bowls) of laton
ij laton candelstikk of the old fasshion
Item A standing candelstikk
A chafer of Bras to hot oile in
Item ij holy water stokke
Item A fire skomer
i pair of briganders (coats of mail) and a salet (light helmet)
A pair of curas (cuirass)
ij old bills
A federbed want bolster
A pillow
A blanket
Item A bedsted
ij beres with ij korners to bere wt.
ij basketts for holy bred
A basket for the serclet (for brides)
ij boxes wt. ij kyes for the churchwardeyns to gader pascall money wt. at ester
Item v buk skynnes
Item the convnt (covenant) seale of Maistr. Henry Abingdon's Rents

Pascall.

Item There is remaynyng in Maister Otiwell's handes of wax to make the pascall taper with i Cxxxiij lb. of wax & an half. (See p. 28.)

Money due unto the Church. Item William Hekforth yoman of the gard wt. our souvren lord King Henry the viiith oweth unto the Church for the rent of his house that he dwellith in belonging to Abingdon's Rents for vi yeres and one quarter at xxxiiis. iiijd. by yere, x£ viiis. iiijd.

Item a narow towell diap. of vi ells and so

Item a towell of diap vi ells; a towell diap iij ells; a towell diap v ells

A towell diap cont. xx ells
A towell cont. xi ells
A towell contg. xvii ells
A towell cont. viii ells
A towell of diap cont. iij ells
A towell diap cont. viii ells & so
A towell diap cont. v ells
A towell diap cont. ix ells
A towell cont. vii ells
A sore worn towell diap iiij ells
A diap towell cont. vii ells

Item A diap towell iij ells & so
A towell diap iiij ells
A towell diap iiij ells & so
A towell diap ij ells febil

Item A towell diap ix ells
A towel diap cont. vi ells penlay
A towel diap iii ells
A towel ij ells
A towel diap x ells
A towel cont. v ells
A towel diap viii ells & so
A towel diap cont. x ells & so
A towel diap cont. v ells & so
A towel diap iij ells & so
A towel diap febil iij ells
A towel diap viii ells
A diap towel xii ells
A playne towell vii ells
A playne towell cont. ij ells
An old towel of i ell

Item ij grave stones

INVENTORY, 1572.

Here after ensuethe an Inventory taken by the saide Churche Wardens Accomptauntes of all the goods Jewelles and Ornaments wythyn the paryshe churche of Saynt Margarette in Westminster apperttynynge the xvth daye of Maye Anno Dmo. 1572.

Plate. Imprimis twoe Comunyon Cuppes all gylte and sylver
One other Comunyon Cuppe of silver all whyte and playne
One paske for Brydes sett wythe perle and stone

Copes. One Cope of Crymson Clothe of Tissue
One other Cope of Crymson veluet withe flowres of golde

Comunyon clothes. One Clothe of redde Crymson veluet and veluet for the Comunyon table
One Clothe of purple and grene Clothe of golde
One Clothe of redde and grene Bodken to hange on the walle
Ij other clothes of bleu and Russet veluet withe flowers of golde

Herse clothes. One herse clothe of purple and crymson veluet and images of golde sette with perle and wroughte withe nedle worke
One herse Clothe of Clothe of bodken and golde
One herse Clothe of purple clothe of tyssue
One herse Clothe of Clothe of golde

One herse Clothe of olde redde clothe of tyssue
One herse Clothe of Crymson Clothe of tyssue

Cushions.
Two Cushyons of Crymson veluet and clothe of golde
ij Cushions of grene veluet with skutchions of nedle worke
ij Cusshions of Clothe of bodken withe floure Deluces (fleur-de-lys)
One lytle Cusshion with a tre of grene sylke

Pulpyt clothes.
One pulpytte clothe of bleue clothe of tyssue
One other pulpytte clothe of black and redde bodken with flowers of golde
One pulpytte clothe of purple clothe of tyssue made of an olde Cope bodken

Napery and other stuffe.
viij clothes of dyaper for the Comunyon table
One greate clothe of Dyaper for the same table
ffyve playne clothes for the same table
xvii towells of Dyaper shorte and longe
ij other shorte towells of Dyaper
iiij banner poles or staves, and ij latten basons
One harnesse for an horseman, ij brest plates and two backes for the same
One paire of splyntes iij olde stulles one flaske and tutch box for a gunne
One blacke byll and ij heddes of blacke bylles withoute the staves
ij new sheffe of Arrowes and iiij sheffes of olde arrowes
ij grete barre chests of yron and one other chest of waynscott with a broken . . .

Books and Serpies and other necessaryes.
One great Byble of the largest volume
ij Paraphrases one of the Epystles and an other of the gospells
One new Comunyon booke withe a psalter, and one olde Comunyon booke
ij new bookes of homelyes of the fyrste and second parte
ij newe psalter bookes, and two olde psalter bookes
iij newe Psalme bookes of Geneuova
ij olde lectures of Vaynstott and certain other olde Vaynstott
ij plates of brasse and one plate of brasse with a pycture
iij gathered serplesse and vi playne olde serplesse
lxiiij new lether buckets and ij greate longe ladders
One olde shorte ladder and iiij olde Bawdrykes (bell ropes)
One greate ffoote Carpett and ij new boxes for the bolles (bowls)
One vestment olde wth. floure deluces and ij pere of vestments
lii new pavynge Tyle

Armour.
viii Courselettes furnyshed and viii pykes furnyshed
vi Calyvers with flasks and tutche boxe
vi blacke moryan heddes and one sworde gyrdell
xiiij new swordes and xiii new daggers
One pece of Cope lefte to make a Cushion of purple clothe of tyssue

INVENTORY, 1614-15.

An Inventorie or Schedule of all such Goodes, Plate Jewells Ornaments and other things of and belonging to the parish church of Saint Margarett in Westmr. as were comitted to the charge and custodie of us the before named *Churchwardens* (as the same are now remayning and being in and about the said church) and are delivered to Peter Haywood and Thomas Moritt, the now Churchwardens (newlie chosen) of the same parish to bee by them safelie kept and accompted for, at the deliverie upp of theire Accompte, vizt.

Imprimis one great Cupp for the Communion waeghing ffortie one ounces and a halfe
Item one other great Com'union Cupp double guilt weighing thirtie seaven ounces
Item one plain Silver Cupp weighing ffifteene ounces
Item twoe great Liverie potts of Silver to fetch wine for the Com'union, weighing cxlviij ounces
Item a plate of Silver double guilt to laie the bread on at the Com'union waight. vi oz. dem et dem g ter

Item one Paiste* for Brides sett on with pearle and stone
Item a back ffront of guilded leather hanging on the upper end of the Com'union Table
Item a Table with the Tenne Comaundemts. hanging over the Com'union table
Item one purple and greene Cloath of Gould
Item one rich Cloath of white damaske embrodered
Item one Cloath of redd velvett and gould paned
Item twoe very ould peeces of velvett nailed at each end of the Com'union Table
Item twoe peeces of oulde Cloath of bodkin worke fastened before and behind the same Table
Item one Pall of Cloath of gould for the Com'union Table bordered with gould ffringe
Item, one long Carpett of Turkie worke to laie before the Com'union Table
Item, one long Cushion of Cloath of Gould backt with Crimson velvett with fower tassells of silk and gould bordered with gould lace and fringed (being sutable to the said Pall)
Item, one shorter Cushion of Cloth of Gould backt with Crimson velvett with fower tassells of Silke and gould bordered with gould lace and fringed, sutable to the said Pall
Item, one long Cushion of Crimson velvett backt with damaske, given by Mr. Maurice Pickering for the Pulpitt
Item, one Crimson velvett cushion embrodered with fflowers and lined with leather
Item, one ould Cushion with images for the Com'union table
Item, one verie long Cushion of russett velvett
Item, one long Cushion of figuretta Taffeta russett and black
Item, one long Cushion of figuretta Taffeta haire colour and rose colour
Item, twoe ould long Cushions paned with red velvett and gould
Item, tenne Cushions of dornixe†
Item, twoe stalle cloathes for the Chancell of greene Silke branched, and lined with blue lynnen
Item, one cloath of black velvett lined with Million ffustian fringed with black silk called the Marke cloath given by Mr. Maurice Pickering
Item, a rich Cloath embrodered with Images called the halfe-crowne Cloath
Item, a rich Cloath of redd velvet embrodered with flowers called also the halfe-crowne Cloath
Item, one Cloath embrodered with Scollopp Shells called the twoe shilling Cloath
Item, one ould Cloath called the twelve pennie cloath
Item, another ould Cloath for the Poore
Item, one pulpitt cloath of blue velvett and gould verie much decaied
Item, one ould pulpitt Cloath, worth little
Item, one new Cloath of fine diaper of fower yards and three quarters
Item, one new Cloath of diaper somewhat courser of fower yards and a halfe
Item, one ould diaper Cloath of three yardes
Item, five diaper Towells long and short
Item, three gathered Surplisses for the Minister
Item, ffive plaine Surplisses for the Clarke and Sexton
Item, one dromme with a case of greene Buckram, and twoe brasill drumsticks being the guift of Mr. Maurice Pickering
Item, nyne Cosletts furnished
Item, one armour for a horseman, Sword and dagger but no girdle, given by Mr. Marmaduke Servant
Item, one Muskett with a Rest, and twelve Calivers
Item, twelve Swordes and nine Daggers, Seaven leather Belts, Three pair of ould hangers and one wast Girdle
Item, eleaven fflaskes and nine touch boxes
Item, one head peece for a horseman and seaven head peeces for Shott

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* Circlet.

† *Dornixe*, or *Dornyk*, a corruption of Dornick, the Dutch name for Tournay, once the seat of a flourishing woollen trade. Dornick hangings and carpets are frequently mentioned by our old authors. Later the term was applied to a stout description of damask linen cloth.

Item, three black Bills
Item, twoe sheathes full of ould rotten arrowes
Item, five ould Pikes
Item, one Antient (Ensign or flag). (*See* the last item against the year 1579, p. 50.)
Item, twoe Tables hanging in the Vestrie, the one mentioning the names of all the Burgesses and of all those within theire severall wardes that became contributorie towardes the payment of the Act graunted for the good government of this Cittie or Borough of Westmr., and what everie person paid; the other table mentioning the names of divers gentlemen and others Parishioners whoe gave money towarde the Trim'ing of the said parish Churche, and what everie such person did give, As in and by the said Tables remayning in the said Vestrie more plainlie maie appeare
Item, one great Presse
Item, one long Table with a fframe
Item, one long fforme
Item, one great flatt Chest with five Locks
Item, one great Chest barred with yron, wherein the plate is locked
Item, another great Chest barred with yron, wherein the Churchwardens Bookes are locked
Item, one Chest wherein the Collectors putt the Poores money
Item, one great Chest to laie the Lynnen in
Item, one great Chest bar'd with yron and fower Register Bookes in it
Item, one Carpett of dornixe for the Churchwardens Pewe (See note p. 240.)
Item, one greene Carpett for the Table in the Vestrie
Item, one Cradle of yron to make fire in
Item, one Croc of yron
Item, one paire of Tongs, and a fire-shovell, and a paire of Bellowes
Item, one chamber pott, and three copper Basons
Item, twoe great brasen Candlesticks, and a paire of copper Snuffers
Item, a Standish (a stand or case for pen and ink) of Pewter and a Penknife
Item, one deske with an ould Bible fastened to it
Item, one great Bible for the reading-place
Item, one large Communion Booke for the Minister
Item, three lesser Com'union Bookes for the Clarke and Sexton
Item, one Booke of Homilies
Item, one booke of Paraphrasis of Erasmus
Item, one Booke of the abridgement of the Statute
Item, one Lanterne of glasse in the bodie of the Church
Item, one brasse Candlestick of ffive branched Sockette hanging in the Chauncell, given by Mr. Thomas Bond
Item, one long Table in the bodie of the Church with the Kings Armes
Item, three long fire hookes with chains
Item, Thirtie five leather Bucketts for fire much decaied
Item, thirtene fformes long and short
Item, twoe long Ladders called the Standerds, and one ladder for the leades
Item, one short Ladder for the graves, and one ould Beere
Item, ffower Coffines great and small, and one ould Wheelebarrowe
Item, one paire of tressles, twoe Shovells, and one Pickaxe.

ADDENDA AND CORRIGENDA.

Page 43.—All the references and enquiries made up to the time of going to press failed to elicit any definite information as to 'the Scala Cœli in the Abby' mentioned in the extract from the accounts for the year 1519, at p. 43; but an application to the Abbey architect (J. T. Micklethwaite, Esq., F.S.A.,) was more successful. That gentleman very courteously and promptly replied, under date of 20th June, 1900:—

> "I have no certain information about *Scala Cœli* at the Abbey here. But I have a suspicion it was another name for the Lady Chapel, which was called Henry VII.'s Chapel. I do not remember meeting with Scala Cœli earlier than the rebuilding of the Lady Chapel, and in 1504 Pope Julius II. granted to the King's new chapel the same indulgence as had been granted to the Church of Scala Cœli in Rome. I have a note of a will in 1513 in which a trental 'at the *Scala Cœli* at Westmynster' is provided for; which shows us that there was an altar at which Mass could be said. It would be interesting to know why the parish should pay so large a sum as £3 2s. 8d. to the keeper in 1519. Are there any more payments of the same kind? This sum in purchasing power would be equal to at least £60 now."

Page 94.—The title page of the Overseers' Accounts for 1617, described as "missing," was recovered from the possession of a person at Croydon while the last pages of the Catalogue were in the press. It was at once reproduced, and is inserted opposite page 220

Page 172, No. 2067, foot-note.—For "Hipkins" substitute "Hipwell."

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